

Dennis Ross arrives in Cairo

CAIRO (R) — The U.S. special coordinator for Middle East peace talks Dennis Ross arrived in Cairo on Tuesday on a mission to revive the talks, officials said. Mr. Ross will have dinner with Foreign Minister Amr Musa in Cairo on Tuesday and meet President Hosni Mubarak at his summer holiday home near the Mediterranean city of Alexandria on Wednesday, they added. He is expected to encourage Egypt to press on with preparations for a Middle East economic summit in Cairo in November, the next fixed event in the peace process calendar. Mr. Mubarak said on Monday that Egypt wanted the summit to go ahead but Israel and the United States had to contribute to ensuring it is a success. He has linked it with Israel meeting some of the Palestinian National Authority's (PNA) demands. Mr. Ross will travel on to Gaza in the autonomous Palestinian territories and then to Israel. U.S. officials said they did not think he would go to Syria.

Wahid Shaer
named AFM chief

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers on Tuesday approved the appointment of Wahid Abdul Shaer as director-general of the Amman Financial Market (AFM) with effect from Oct. 15, 1996. Information Minister Marwan Muasher said. Speaking to the press after the Cabinet session part of which was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Dr. Muasher said Omayya Touqan, the serving AFM director-general, was appointed as an ambassador at the Foreign Ministry. Dr. Muasher said the Cabinet also heard a report from Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Khaled Madad-hah on the Arab foreign ministers' meeting in Cairo this week. The information minister added that the Council of Ministers approved an amendment to the construction law in Amman Governorate.

U.S. flies out
Iraqi Kurds

DIYARBAKIR (AFP) — Nearly 1,400 Iraqi Kurds who had been involved in U.S.-supported opposition to Iraq's government have boarded U.S. planes headed for the Pacific island of Guam, officials said. Another 687 remain on Turkish territory pending their evacuation to the United States. Some are in this town in Turkish Kurdistan, others at a Turkish military base at Silopi, near the Iraqi border. All are expected to have left by Wednesday, the officials said.

U.N. wants
Cypriot meeting

ANKARA (AFP) — The United Nations is trying to organise a meeting between leaders of the Greek-Cypriot and Turkish-Cypriot communities to try to facilitate a settlement to the Cyprus problem, a U.N. official said here Tuesday. "We must try to find a way to bring together the leaders," Han Sung-Joo, U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali's special envoy on Cyprus, told the Anatolia news agency.

Diseases kill dozens in
Sudan floods

KHARTOUM (R) — Dozens of Sudanese have died of diarrhoea, gastroenteritis and malaria in the Khartoum shanty town of Mayo because the annual Nile flood has turned the area into a swamp, state television said. The flooding also destroyed houses and disrupted traffic in the shantytowns of Wad Hussein and Soba, areas inhabited mainly by southerners displaced by civil war, said the report on Monday evening. Deep pools of water have formed in the areas, providing an excellent breeding ground for mosquitoes and germs. In Mayo the authorities set up two camps for 1,000 displaced families and are providing drugs and medical services, the official news agency SUNA reported. The government has sent in earth-moving equipment to dig channels to clear the area of water. The worst floods this year have been at Al Geili north of the capital, where 15 people were killed this month. The state is now building 105 permanent houses there for those who lost homes.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز. يومية سياسية مستقلة تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية. الراي

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U.S.-Iraq tension on the rise again

Clinton sending more troops to Kuwait, threatens disproportionate strike against Iraq as domestic criticism mounts; Aziz says Washington is planning new attack

Combined agency
dispatches

PRESIDENT BILL Clinton said Tuesday he was sending more troops to Kuwait and told lawmakers the United States will strike Iraq disproportionately if it does not comply with U.S. demands.

Mr. Clinton met at the White House with leading senators from both parties amid Republican criticism that he had failed to keep the Gulf war coalition together and had not acted strongly enough against Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Mr. Clinton defended the U.S. response as designed "to improve the strategic position of the United States and our allies to keep Saddam Hussein in a box and to limit his ability to threaten his neighbours. That is a smaller box now because we have extended the no-fly zone."

Mr. Clinton added that the U.S. has "put Saddam Hussein on notice that we do

not want him to take any action that would increase the dangers to our pilots."

The State Department said a fresh message to Iraq telling it not to interfere with Western enforcement of no-fly-zones over Iraq.

"This demarche... put the Iraqi government on notice that they were not to take actions that either threatened the safety of the coalition pilots or our ability to enforce the no-fly-zones — Southern Watch and Operation Provide Comfort in the north," spokesman Nicholas Burns said.

Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz said the U.S. was beefing up its military presence in the Gulf to launch another military strike against his country.

"American pretexts and excuses for the massing of troops and weapons in the Arab Gulf region are aimed at the staging of an aggression on Iraq," Mr. Aziz said in a statement carried by the official Iraqi News

Agency (INA).

An official Iraqi newspaper published what it described as an open letter to Mr. Clinton, challenging him to disclose a single positive outcome of American missile attacks on Iraq.

"Clinton, O great president of America, the results of your aggression against Iraq came contrary to your expectations," the daily Al Iraq said. "Cohesion among our people has been reinforced and so has their belief in ultimate victory."

"Clinton, you have lost a great deal," it said.

Anti-U.S. rhetoric in Iraq's official media has escalated since U.S. forces fired 44 missiles against Iraq earlier this month to punish Baghdad for sending its troops into a Kurdish safe haven in northern Iraq.

Al Iraq defied Mr. Clinton to "announce to the American people the positive results of your aggression, of your missiles and of your messages of death."

"You don't dare do so, because you have gained

nothing from military operations against Iraq but defeat," the paper added.

Whether Mr. Clinton "is reelected or departs the White House" in the November U.S. presidential election, Iraq "will not have any regrets," the paper said.

That's because "President Saddam Hussein, who is revered by the Iraqis and is the hope of the Arab Nation, will stay on."

President Clinton signed orders Monday night to send some 3,500 U.S. troops from Fort Hood, Texas to join about 1,200 troops that have been in Kuwait since August.

The troops would be leaving over the next couple of days, a Pentagon spokesman said, adding that the situation on the ground in Iraq was quiet.

Kuwait belatedly agreed Monday to accept the troops, but the administration appeared to have reconsidered in light of

(Continued on page 7)

Regent meets German team, voices
Jordan's keen desire to play key role

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday reaffirmed Jordan's keen desire to play its regional role through its partnership and association with the European countries.

The Regent also voiced hope that Europe will help implement the recommendations and resolutions passed by the Middle East and North Africa Economic summit which was held in Amman last year.

Speaking at a meeting at the Royal Court with a visiting delegation representing the economic cooperation committee of the German parliament, the Regent said the Kingdom, which is located between Israel in the west and the oil-rich Gulf states in the east, could play a leading regional role in development.

Referring to local issues,

the Regent said that Jordan was facing an economic challenge at a time when the Jordanian citizens were still awaiting concrete and positive results of the Kingdom's peace treaty with the Jewish state.

With reference to the Palestinian refugees question, Prince Hassan said: "Jordan is concerned with rehabilitating the refugees but not settling them in the Kingdom."

With reference to the burdens shouldered by the Kingdom as a result of caring for the refugees, Prince Hassan said: "Among the five countries hosting the refugees Jordan shouldered the heaviest burdens, spending more than \$300 million to cater to their needs."

"We in Jordan are concerned with rehabilitating the refugees by first conducting a social survey which must cover all con-

centrations of refugees in the five host countries and then efforts should be made towards improving the refugees' living conditions within the ongoing economic development process in this region."

Prince Hassan urged Germany to participate in projects aimed at boosting water resources, combating poverty, improving energy resources and protecting environment.

He reiterated his earlier call for the creation of specialised institutions that will cater to the requirements of regional security and economic cooperation.

In reply the head of the delegation Mrs. D. Schmidt, voiced Germany's appreciation of Jordan's endeavours towards peace and said that the delegation has been impressed by the Kingdom's orientation

(Continued on page 7)

Crown
Prince
urges focus
on helping
refugees

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Tuesday reiterated the need for the world community to help resolve the Palestinian refugee problem, citing a conference this week on refugees as a platform for discussing this issue.

"My feeling is that the term 'refugees' has been absent in the Western media and we have a duty to reaffirm the refugees' rights to repatriation and we have to do whatever we can in this regard," said the Regent after attending the Cabinet's regular session.

Asked to comment on the prospects and the work of the conference on refugees scheduled for Monday, the Prince said: "Jordan has established a centre for research on refugees affairs at Yarmouk University supported by Canada, which is involved in the refugees issue in the multilateral phase of the Middle East peace process. Jordan has been among the main countries to offer help to the refugees. Among the five Middle Eastern countries hosting the refugees, Jordan shouldered the heaviest burden. We are concerned with and work towards reasserting the dignity and the rights of the refugees."

Asked to elaborate on his own suggestions of holding national dialogues and about the Cabinet meeting he said: "It was natural for me to review with the ministers questions connected with the serious developments in the region. Second, I would like to remind you of the conference on administrative development which was attended by 13 Arab and African countries in Amman and which highlighted the need for appropriate systems for the work of governments and the participation of all sectors in government work. I believe every citizen has the right to participate in constructive dialogue."

Other sources in Ankara said Mr. Barzani would be received in Silopi, a Turkish town just north of the Iraqi border.

The trip will be Mr. Barzani's first since his KDP guerrillas, backed by Iraqi forces, defeated the Iranian-

backed PUK in a battle for the control of Iraqi Kurdistan. It will be the Kurdish leader's first visit to Turkey since 1993.

The KDP and Iraqi troops seized the Kurdish "capital" of Erbil on Aug. 31 in the first direct Iraqi military intervention in the Kurdish safe haven set up by the United States and its Western allies after the Gulf war in 1991.

In a bid to deter Baghdad, Washington ordered two missile attacks on Iraqi air defence sites and beefed up its air and naval power in the region. Mr. Barzani, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, has brokered previous agreements between the rival Kurdish factions.

The INC's radio said, meanwhile, about 3,000 elite Iraqi troops have been shifted from Baghdad to within 15 kilometers of the border with Kuwait.

In a statement received by AFP, the INC opposition coalition said that "two Republican Guards brigades were transferred two days ago by train from Baghdad to Basra" in the extreme south of Iraq.

The two brigades include nearly 3,000 Republican Guards "wearing the insignia of the regular army," the INC said citing "Iraqi military

Kahalani gets tough on illegal aliens

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israeli Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani vowed Tuesday to "make life bitter" for more than 100,000 illegal foreign workers who the government wants to force from the Jewish state. Mr. Kahalani told journalists following talks with Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo on problems linked to illegal immigrants that he had instructed municipal governments to withhold social services from foreigners working illegally in Israel. "We have to make life bitter for foreign workers who are settling here and are making Tel Aviv their city," said Mr. Kahalani, who is in charge of the country's civilian police and security agencies. "We cannot permit them to set up 'health salons' (disguised borders) or to turn their apartments into unauthorised churches," he said, referring to makeshift Christian chapels created by some African immigrant communities recent years.

GOVERNMENT OF JORDAN
PRIVATIZATION OF
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION
INVITATION FOR EXPRESSIONS OF
INTEREST FOR FINANCIAL ADVISORS

The Government of Jordan has embarked on a Privatization Program, and the privatization of the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) will constitute an early and important transaction in the program. The Government's objectives with the privatization of TCC are to:

- Improve the quality and diversity of telecom services in Jordan;
- Accelerate the expansion of the network;
- Maximize the proceeds of the sale;
- Expedite the commercialization of TCC operations; and
- Transfer technology and modernize systems and operations.

It is the Government's intention to engage a qualified Financial Advisor (FA) to prepare and execute the divestiture of 26% of TCC shares to a Strategic Partner in a transparent manner. The FA will be responsible for all activities related to the sale, from marketing to implementation of the transaction.

Expressions of interest to act as the Financial Advisors to the Government of Jordan are requested from World-class firms/consortia that have acted as the lead-advisor to a government in a sale of a substantial proportion of a major telecommunications company to a strategic investor. Short-listed firms will subsequently be invited to submit a technical and financial proposal.

Prospective firms/consortia may send their expression of interest by 3:00 p.m. local time, Tuesday, 15th of October, 1996, along with relevant and detailed documentation demonstrating that they meet the above specified criteria, to:

H.E. Jamal Al-Sarayrah
Minister of Post and Communications
TCC Tower Building, 3rd Circle
Amman, Jordan
Tel: (962-6) 656559; Fax (962-6) 627743.

NOTE: This Advertisement does not constitute an invitation for potentially interested investors to initiate contacts with the Government of Jordan.

Kuwaiti ministers launch diplomatic drive over Iraq

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait stepped up a diplomatic offensive on Tuesday to win support from 1991 Gulf war Arab allies following opposition from some countries to U.S. military strikes against Iraq.

Information Minister Sheikh Nasser Al Saud Al Sabah left around dawn for Egypt to discuss steps taken so far in Washington's latest standoff with Iraq and would go on from Cairo to Syria, officials said.

Defence Minister Sheikh Ahmad Hamoud Al Jaber Al Sabah left late on Monday for talks with some of the other five members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), some of whom apparently have reservations about a U.S. military buildup in the region.

"We know who our enemy is — and we know who our friends are. The future of this country is above any other consideration," columnist Bader Al Asfar wrote in Al Watan about Kuwait's repeated post-Gulf war security flare-ups with Iraq.

Egypt and Syria are the Arab world's two main military powers which formed the Damascus declaration alliance with the GCC days after a U.S.-led coalition ended Iraq's seven-month occupation of Kuwait in 1991. The oil-rich, Saudi-dominated GCC also groups Oman, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah flew to Britain on Monday night from France following

ing talks in Egypt with President Hosni Mubarak.

The Kuwaiti campaign follows hard on the heels of a lightning bout of U.S. lobbying of its Western partners to preserve the old coalition against Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Opposition by most Arab allies, France and Turkey to direct involvement in possible U.S. military strikes against Iraq is making it difficult for Washington and Kuwait to justify additional action without further splits in the alliance.

Kuwait on Monday agreed to receive more U.S. soldiers and stressed it would not hesitate to take further measures to deter what it sees as threats by former occupier Iraq.



BAGHDAD MARKET: An Iraqi woman bargains with a seller over the price of fish at a market in downtown Baghdad on Monday. Fishing in the two main rivers of Iraq, Euphrates and Tigris, has become a key source of income for many Iraqis, who are suffering from the international sanctions imposed on their country in 1990 (Reuters photo)

Saudi ruler ends Qatari feud

The Guardian

SAUDI ARABIA'S Crown Prince Abdullah has personally intervened in the feud between the emir of the tiny Gulf state of Qatar, Sheikh Hamad and his father, Sheikh Khalifa, over some \$8 billion of funds said to be missing from the Qatari treasury.

The two warring sheikhs were due to lock horns in the High Court in London this week in the first of eight legal actions around the world.

But Qatari officials have confirmed to the Guardian that a settlement has been reached to avoid the political embarrassment of having to disentangle the conflict between the income of the state and its ruler.

The emir wants the return of state funds which he accuses his father of misappropriating during his 23 years as head of the wealthy sheikhdom. Sheikh Khalifa, who was deposed by his son in a bloodless coup last year, has maintained that as the ruling sheikh, he was entitled to

take the money. "One cannot steal one's own money," he argued in documents submitted to the courts.

The prospect of a Gulf emir accusing another of misappropriating state money in a public trial in London is said to have alarmed many other ruling families in the Gulf and banks in the City of London were anxiously watching the case for the impact it might have on deposits from the oil-rich area.

"The case may have revealed that embezzlement is a way of life for these Gulf royal families. And no-one wanted that," said one official close to the case.

The emir is said to have come under considerable pressure from the Saudis not to bring the case to trial. Qatari sources have alleged the former emir routinely and illegally transferred huge sums of money into European and American bank accounts.

Saudi dissident sources in London claim the legal action was proving highly

embarrassing to the Al Saud regime. They allege the Saudi royal family profited in the last few decades when the country became awash with oil money.

As yet, no details of the agreement being brokered by the Saudi crown prince have been disclosed. But officials close to the deal said it was likely Sheikh Khalifa would have to return some of the disputed funds.

Last week Sheikh Khalifa took the significant step of waiving his argument that as an emir, he was entitled to sovereign immunity and that his son was not entitled to take civil proceedings against him.

His decision is likely to have relieved the British Foreign Office of the task of ruling on the issue.

This week Sheikh Khalifa was due to seek a ruling overturning the court order which froze his assets in London in July. But that has been adjourned pending detailed negotiations. The British lawyers for both sides appear to have been kept in the dark.

Bhutto denies Pakistan is interfering in Afghan war

ISLAMABAD (R) — Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto denied on Tuesday Afghan government charges that Pakistan was meddling in Afghanistan's long-running civil war and urged all factions to stop fighting and talk.

"We were very disturbed to hear the accusations from the Kabul government," she told Reuters in an interview.

"We were concerned because we had spent many long and arduous months building bridges to the Kabul regime and recently things had seemed to brighten up."

Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani's spokesman urged Pakistan on Monday to "recall its militias" from Afghanistan, a reference to the rebel Taliban movement, which captured the eastern city of Jalalabad last Wednesday.

"Really we are not involved in internal Afghan

developments," Ms. Bhutto said. "We would like to show the Kabul government and all the other groups that we do not wish to interfere and we have nothing to gain from interfering."

"We seek friendship with all Afghan people wherever they may reside... And I would like to take this opportunity to urge an intra-Afghan dialogue and an end to the fighting," she said.

Pakistan froze contacts with the Rabbani government after a mob sacked its embassy in Kabul a year ago in protest at alleged Pakistani backing for the Taliban militants.

Relations improved recently when Pakistan agreed to reopen its Kabul mission in temporary premises and sold substantial quantities of food to the Afghan government, though the Taliban seizure of Jalalabad has prevented its delivery by road.

Ms. Bhutto said her gov-

ernment backed United Nations peace efforts, which she said needed full Western support.

"The United Nations on its own will not be in a position to exercise the same kind of influence," she said, citing the role of the United States in brokering the Dayton accords for Bosnia.

"I think it's important to have a U.N.-backed solution, but more important is the political support the West is prepared to give the United Nations in seeking a solution," Ms. Bhutto said.

She said some Western and Muslim countries had grown frustrated with attempts to reach an Afghan settlement and frequent violations of solemnly sworn accords.

"It's important not to be frustrated but to press again for a political solution," Ms. Bhutto said, adding that it was vital to prevent bloodshed that a Taliban assault on Kabul might cause.

Israel transferred Palestinians to Brazil after 1967 war

From The Jerusalem Report

SAO PAULO — A small group of Brazilian Jewish leaders, working in partnership with Israel, paved the way for numerous Palestinian families to leave the occupied territories soon after the six-day war and start new lives in southern Brazil. This never-before-reported case of "voluntary transfer" has been uncovered by The Jerusalem Report almost 30 years after the event.

According to several Brazilian Jewish leaders, finally breaking their silence on the issue, the initiative came from the Israeli government of the day.

According to Hanan Bar-On, who at the time was spokesman of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, it was a private initiative — but one initially approved by the then-defence minister, Moshe Dayan.

Marcus Arbeitman, a former head of the World Maccabiah who now runs Hebraica, a huge Jewish

sports club and cultural centre in Sao Paulo, says Israeli representatives approached Brazilian Jewry and sought their help.

The desire, says Arbeitman, was to encourage Palestinians from the newly captured territories to relocate to Brazil, with its sizeable Arab community — improving their economic outlook and simultaneously reducing their number in Israeli-held land.

The story was confirmed to The Report by Fiszle Czeresnia, a former senior

Jewish official in Sao Paulo. Both Arbeitman and Czeresnia noted that Jewish leaders in Brazil helped successfully lobby the Brazilian government to grant the Palestinians entry permits.

The new arrivals made their homes in the southern town of Foz do Iguaçu, at the triangle where the Brazilian, Para-guayan and Argentinian borders meet. According to Czeresnia, a Brazilian Jew named Israel Klabin, who has since died, even provided financing for the transfer. "First they

came," says Czeresnia. "Then their families followed, and the community grew." While the Brazilian sources spoke of thousands or even tens of thousands of Palestinians who relocated in this way, Bar-On thought it unlikely that more than a dozen families were involved. He said the idea had been to encourage Palestinians, from Gaza in particular, to move to various countries in South America, not just Brazil, and that Dayan, having initially green-lighted the oper-

ation, later had reservations and put a halt to it. Palestinian and Lebanese emigres maintain a thriving community in Foz do Iguaçu to this day. Indeed, the town has been frequently cited as a possible base from which pro-Iranian terrorists may have organised one or both of the suicide bombings in Buenos Aires — the 1992 explosion at the Israeli embassy and the blast two years later at the AMIA community headquarters building.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Algeria's forces kill 10 rebels in Algiers

PARIS (R) — Algerian security forces killed 10 guerrillas suspected of murdering civilians and members of government forces in Algiers, Algeria's Al Watan newspaper said on Tuesday. The paper, well informed on security matters, said eight rebels were shot dead on Saturday in Climat de France suburb, a hotbed for guerrillas on the northern edge of Algiers. The group had been active in four sectors in the Algerian capital, and had killed civilians opposed to guerrillas, it added. Two others, trying to steal a car, were killed on Sunday in Leveilly neighbourhood by a police patrol.

Greece hopes for realistic Netanyahu approach

DAMASCUS (AFP) — Greek Foreign Minister Theodore Pangalos urged Israel on Tuesday to offer "more realistic ideas" to revive stalled peace talks with its Arab neighbours. "I hope that the Middle East peace process would resume and that the Israeli prime minister would propose more realistic ideas," Mr. Pangalos said on arrival in Syria for an official visit. Mr. Pangalos, who is scheduled to meet with President Hafez Al Assad later Tuesday, said he had come to Damascus to hear his views on the peace process. He said Syria's role is "essential" in the region, and added that Athens backed Arab demands for the implementation of U.N. resolutions as a basis for a settlement to the Mideast conflict. The Greek minister also described Greek-Syrian relations as "excellent."

U.S. aid official kidnapped in Mogadishu

MOGADISHU (AFP) — U.S. aid official Daniel Suther was kidnapped in the north of the Somali capital Mogadishu on Tuesday by unidentified Somali gunmen, a source close to the abductors said. Mr. Suther, an employee of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), was kidnapped after being mistaken for an official of the U.N. World Food Programme (WFP), from which Somali subcontractors have been demanding money, the source said.

2 Turkish soldiers released by Kurds

HABUR (AFP) — Two Turkish soldiers held for 15 months by Kurdish guerrillas in northern Iraq were handed over to Ankara authorities on Tuesday, officials said. Red Cross personnel took the soldiers and their families from northern Iraq to Habur, the only border crossing between the two countries. The troops were released to the Red Cross Monday in Dohuk in northern Iraq. The soldiers were captured last year in southeast Turkey during clashes with the Kurdistan Labour Party (PKK), a Turkish Kurd separatist army, and held in a PKK camp in northern Iraq. The PKK is holding five other Turkish soldiers, officials said. A deputy of the Islamic party in power in Turkey caused an uproar in August by travelling with relatives of the seven soldiers to a PKK camp in northern Iraq in a failed bid to obtain their release. The PKK has been fighting since 1984 to carve out an independent homeland in the mainly Kurdish southeast region of Turkey. The clashes with government forces have left some 22,000 people dead.

Policeman found killed in shootout in Egypt

CAIRO (AP) — The body of a policeman was found in southern Egypt Tuesday, a day after a shootout between security forces and militants wounded seven people. The body of Tamer Salah Abdel Hamid was found in Sahel Selim in the southern province of Assiut, 320 kilometres south of Cairo. Last week, eight civilians and a policeman were killed in clashes in the area. In the shootout Monday, a militant and six policemen were wounded. Police later arrested seven suspected extremists. Militants are seeking to overthrow the secular government of President Hosni Mubarak. More than 975 people have been killed in the violence since 1992, most of them police and militants.

Israel helicopter crashed into sea

TEL AVIV (AP) — An Israeli air force helicopter crashed into the Mediterranean during exercises off northern Israel and at least one of three crew members was killed, the army said Tuesday. Air force planes and navy boats launched a search after communication with the Dolphin helicopter was lost Monday. At about midnight Monday, the body of one of the crew members and the wreckage of the helicopter was found at sea. Two other crew members were missing Tuesday, the army said.

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel. 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

| | |
|-------|----------------------------------|
| 15:20 | Flintstones |
| 15:45 | The Adventures |
| 16:10 | Kelly |
| 16:30 | Earth Revealed |
| 17:00 | NewsFlash |
| 17:02 | Document — LaFrance |
| 17:30 | Aux 1000 Villages |
| 17:50 | Varieties — L'ivite |
| 18:00 | De Marque |
| 18:00 | Document — Les Enfants Du Voyage |
| 19:00 | Le Journal |
| 19:15 | Magazine — Sport Et Musique |
| 19:30 | News Headlines |
| 19:35 | Evening Shade |
| 20:00 | Super Stars of Action |
| 20:30 | Chancer |
| 21:10 | Hunter |
| 22:00 | News in English |
| 22:25 | The Bold And the Beautiful |
| 23:10 | Bugs |

PRAYER TIMES

| | |
|-------|--------------|
| 04:59 | Fajr |
| 06:16 | Sunrise/Duha |
| 12:30 | Dhuhr |
| 16:00 | Asr |
| 18:44 | Maghrib |
| 20:02 | Isha |

CHURCHES

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| St. Mary of Nazareth Church | Swefieh, Tel. 810740 |
| Assemblies of God Church | Tel. 632785 |
| St. Joseph Church | Tel. 624590 |
| Church of the Annunciation | Tel. 637440 |
| De la Salle Church | Tel. |

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

| | | |
|--------|--|----------------------|
| 661757 | Terra Sancta Church | Tel. 622366 |
| 661757 | Anglican Church | Tel. 652826 |
| 661757 | Armenian Catholic Church | Tel. 771331 |
| 661757 | Armenian Orthodox Church | Tel. 775261 |
| 661757 | St. Ephraim Church | Tel. 771751 |
| 661757 | Amman International Church | Tel. 827126 |
| 661757 | Evangelical Lutheran Church | Tel. 824328 |
| 661757 | German-speaking Evangelical Congregation | Tel. 845457 |
| 661757 | The Latter-Day Saints | Tel. 654932 |
| 661757 | Church of Nazareth | Tel. 675691 |
| 661757 | The Evangelical Local Church | in Amman Tel. 811295 |
| 661757 | English-speaking Latin Catholics Parish | Tel. 614190 |

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. Fine weather conditions will prevail during the day becoming relatively cool at night with temperatures lower than average by 3-4 degrees centigrade and winds northwesterly moderate to active. On Thursday, temperatures are expected to rise gradually. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly active and seas calm.

| | |
|---------|-------|
| Amman | 16/28 |
| Aqaba | 22/35 |
| Deserts | 15/31 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Jordan Valley | 25/36 |
| Yesterday's high temperatures: | |
| Amman 27, Aqaba 34 | Humidity readings: Amman 37 per cent, Aqaba 38 per cent. |

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| Dr. Ghaleb Zawaideh | 736011 |
| Dr. Jihad Sammour | 765018 |
| Dr. Hisham Kan'an | 790286 |
| Dr. Khalidoun Asfour | 666873 |
| Firas pharmacy | 661912 |
| Ferdows pharmacy | 890280 |
| Al Asena pharmacy | 637055 |
| Yacoub pharmacy | 644945 |
| Shmeisani pharmacy | 637660 |
| Nairoukh pharmacy | 623672 |
| Najib pharmacy | 847632 |
| IRBID: | |
| Dr. Ghazi Ta'ammeh | 250080 |
| Al Quds pharmacy | (—) |
| ZARQA: | |
| Dr. Akram Haddad | 985550 |
| Khalifeh pharmacy | 985417 |

EMERGENCIES

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Food Control Centre | 637111 |
| Civil Defence Department | 661111 |
| Civil Defence Immediate Rescue | 630341 |
| Civil Defence Emergency | 199 |
| Rescue Police | 192, 621111, 637777 |

| | |
|--|----------|
| Fire Brigade | 617101 |
| Blood Bank | 775121 |
| Highway Police | 843402 |
| Traffic Police | 896390 |
| Public Security Department | 630321 |
| Hotel Complaints | 605800 |
| Price Complaints | 661176 |
| Water and Sewerage Complaints | 897467 |
| Amman Municipality Complaints | 787111 |
| Telephone Information (directory assistance) | 121 |
| Overseas Calls | 010230 |
| Central Amman Telephone Repairs | 623101 |
| Abdali Telephone Repairs | 661101 |
| Jordan Television | 773111 |
| Radio Jordan | 774111 |
| Water Authority | 680100 |
| Jordan Electricity Authority | 815615 |
| Electric Power Company | 636381 |
| RJ Flight Information | 08-53200 |
| Queen Alia Intl. Airport | 08-53200 |

HOSPITALS

| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| AMMAN: | |
| Hussein Medical Centre | 813813/32 |
| Khalidi Maternity | 644281/6 |
| Akileh Maternity | 642441/2 |
| Jabal Amman Maternity | 642362 |
| Malhas, J. Amman | 636140 |
| Palestine, Shmeisani | |

| | | |
|--------|---|------------|
| 607071 | Shmeisani Hospital | 669131 |
| 607071 | University Hospital | 845845 |
| 607071 | Al-Muashar Hospital | 667227/9 |
| 607071 | The Islamic, Abdali | 666126/37 |
| 607071 | Al-Ahli, Abdali | 664164/6 |
| 607071 | Italian, Al-Muhajreen | 777101/3 |
| 607071 | Al-Bashir | 775111/26 |
| 607071 | Army, Marka | 891611/15 |
| 607071 | Queen Alia Hospital | 602240/50 |
| 607071 | Amal Hospital | 674155 |
| 607071 | The Arab Centre for Heart and Special Surgery | 865199 |
| 607071 | ZARQA: | |
| 607071 | Zarga Govt. Hospital | (09)983323 |
| 607071 | Zarga National Hospital | (09)900560 |
| 607071 | Ibn Sina Hospital | (09)986732 |
| 607071 | Al Hikma Modern Hospital | (09)990990 |
| 607071 | IRBID: | |
| 607071 | Princess Basma Hospital | (02)275555 |
| 607071 | Greek Catholic Hospital | (02)272275 |
| 607071 | Ibn Al Nafees Hospital | (02)247100 |
| 607071 | AQABA: | |
| 607071 | Princess Haya Hospital | (03)314111 |

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the

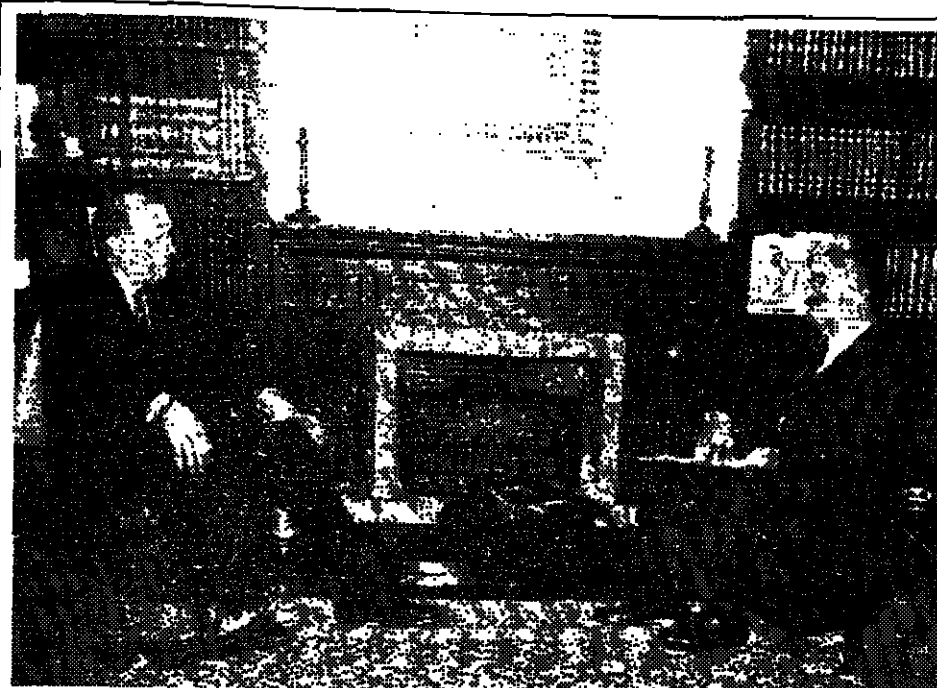
| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Queen Alia International Airport | Tel. (08)53200 where it should always be verified. Information on other flights are supplied on phone 08 (52700) or 08(53250). |
| ARRIVALS | |
| Royal Jordanian (RJ) | |
| Flights | |
| 08:00 | Damascus (RJ) |
| 09:30 | Jeddah (RJ) |
| 09:55 | Lamaca (RJ) |
| 09:30 | Jeddah (RJ) |
| 10:10 | Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ) |
| 10:50 | Doha, Bahrain (RJ) |
| 15:45 | New York, Amsterdam (RJ) |
| 17:30 | Toronto, Montreal (RJ) |
| 18:15 | Istanbul (RJ) |
| 19:00 | Madrid, Geneva (RJ) |
| 19:10 | Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ) |
| 19:15 | London, Berlin (RJ) |
| 19:40 | Rome (RJ) |
| 19:40 | Paris, Brussels (RJ) |
| 00:30 | Beirut (RJ) |
| 01:10 | Cairo (RJ) |
| 04:25 | Kuala Lumpur (RJ) |

Other Flights

| | |
|-------|-------------------------|
| 12:00 | Sanaa (IY) |
| 12:15 | Jeddah (SV) |
| 13:00 | Karachi, Abu Dhabi (PK) |
| 13:15 | Cairo (MS) |
| 13:40 | Doha, Abu Dhabi (GF) |
| 14:30 | Tunis (TU) |
| 15:00 | Vienna (OS) |
| 16:20 | Algiers (AH) |

| | |
| --- | --- |
| 19:00 | Dubai (EK) |

Home News



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, discussed bilateral cooperation in scientific and industrial fields with a visiting Canadian delegation led by Pierre Beemans, Mr. Beemans, who is deputy chairman of the Canadian Industrial Development Board, briefed Prince Hassan on the outcome of negotiations with the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) concerning the establishment of an association between the Canadians and the RSS. He said such an association would promote joint investments and that the board could offer advanced medical and industrial counselling and services. RSS President Hani Mulki and the Canadian Ambassador to Jordan, Michael Sallaberry were present at the meeting (Petra photo)



Her Royal Highness Princess Basma on Tuesday visits Social Services Centre (Petra photo)

HRH inaugurates community centres

AMMAN (Petra) — HRH Princess Basma Tuesday inaugurated two centres, the first dedicated to social services and the second to the activities of the Jordanian National Forum for Women (JNF) in Sahab, south of Amman.

At the opening ceremony of the Social Services Centre, funded by the Queen Alia Fund for Social Development (QAF), the Princess urged its utilisation by the local community for social, recreational and other cooperative activities among various age groups.

Later Princess Basma, who is chairperson of the QAF, toured the centre which con-

tains a kindergarten, a women's vocational centre, health clinic and multi-purpose hall.

Princess Basma subsequently inaugurated the JNF Centre and stated her expectation that the centre would serve as a meeting place for local women to work on improving the status and role of women in political, social and economic fields.

She later travelled further south to Jweideh and met the JNF located there to discuss their services to the local community.

QAF officials and Amman Governor Talaat Nawaiseh were among the officials accompanying Princess Basma on her tour.

Jordan to receive 'open sky' rights with U.S. — minister

AMMAN (J.T.) — The U.S. has agreed to a draft "open sky" policy agreement to be concluded with Jordan soon, according to Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Royal Jordanian (RJ) might land at any desired destination within the United States, according to an RJ statement released Tuesday.

An unnamed RJ official told the Jordan Times that the agreement stipulates a number of flights to U.S. destinations with no obligation of prior approval from American civil aviation authorities.

He said this agreement, which is slated to take effect by 1997, also grants U.S. airlines the right to fly and land in Jordanian airports.

The official explained further that the U.S. previously signed a similar agreement with various European countries and the current "open sky" policy agreement allows RJ to fly over any European country which has concluded a similar agreement with the United States.

Jordan News Agency, Petra, quoted Minister of Transport Naser Lawzi as saying that the government has received the draft agreement from the Americans and that it was reviewed by the Ministry of Transport, the Civil Aviation Authority and RJ, who all "granted their approval and sent their affirmation to the U.S. government."

Mr. Lawzi stated that with the conclusion of the agreement, Jordan would be the first non-European country in the world to have acquired "open sky" policy rights in the United States.

He said that the Jordanian government has met intensively with the U.S. government over the past few months in connection with the agreement and hopes that the two sides will formally sign the contract soon.

Gamma knife laser surgery technique introduced in seminar

By Rana Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — HRH Princess Christina Mrs. Magnuson of Sweden Monday evening emphasised that medical cooperation to learn more about the latest technology in medicine among physicians in the region was of the utmost importance.

"This gathering will help us all get acquainted with the latest technology in medicine which will contribute to the benefit and comfort of patients," the Princess said, addressing the International Symposium and Workshop on Minimal Invasive Neurosurgery which she officially inaugurated.

Princess Christina, who is the chairman of the Swedish Red Cross, praised cooperative efforts between Sweden and Jordan pointing out advanced medical skills and centres in the Kingdom, the Jordan News Agency Petra reported.

President of the Pan-Arab Union of Neurological Sciences (PAUNS), Mohammad Imaddin Fadly stated that Jordan will be the only country in the region which provides Gamma Knife surgery.

"Hopefully this medical service will provide a good opportunity for future generations of physicians in the Arab world to gain more experience in this field," Dr. Fadly added.

The three-day seminar, which is organised by PAUNS in cooperation with Elekta Instruments Inc. of Stockholm, was attended by HRH Prince Ra'ed Bin Zeid and HRH Princess Majidah.

Prince Ra'ed Tuesday officially inaugurated the Amman Gamma Knife Centre, which utilises the Leksell Gamma Knife, located at Ibn Al Haytham Hospital.

Ibn Al Haytham Hospital in Amman is the only hospital that uses gamma knife radio surgery in the Middle East and Africa, and so far 21 patients have been successfully treated, according to Dr. Ishaq Marqa, director of the Amman Gamma Knife Centre.

"Every operation has been successful so far," Dr. Marqa added.

Earlier on Monday, during a press conference Elekta

Instruments explained the benefits and operation of the Gamma Knife surgery.

The treatment involves neither knife nor surgery but rather hundreds of powerful, highly focused radiation beams aimed at a given malformation, with little or no risk of complications or side effects, according to Severker Litorin, corporate vice-president in charge of communications and investor relations at Elekta Instruments Inc.

The Gamma Knife was developed in 1950 by a Swedish neurosurgeon, Lars Leksell of the Karolinska Institute at the University of Uppsala in Sweden.

The first treatment unit was installed in Stockholm in 1968 and manufactured by Elekta Instruments Inc. of Stockholm.

Asked why the technology was not introduced in Jordan and the Middle East earlier, Dr. Marqa told reporters that several attempts have been made in the past 10 years to bring in the technology, "but we were deterred by financial problems."

Gamma knife technically known as stereo tactic radio surgery, is revolutionising the treatment of some diseases of the brain including benign tumours in treacherous locations, like the brain stem or near the optic nerve.

The \$4 million machine replaces the surgeon's scalpel with a single, high dose of gamma radiation emitted by a cobalt-60 source. The patient wears a helmet which has 201 small round holes in it which aim the radiation at a single tiny target.

The tissue being treated thus receives a very strong dose of radiation without incurring auxiliary damage.

The operation is usually performed under local anaesthesia with mild sedation and takes 1 to 2 minutes depending on the size of the area being treated.

Doctors from the United Kingdom, U.S., Austria and Sweden will be lecturing during the three-day workshop on such topics as Radio Surgery, Image-Guided surgery and other neurological techniques.

Doctors from Jordan, Palestine, Iraq, Syria, Egypt, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Sudan, Kuwait, Indonesia, and Tunisia, will be participating in the symposium representing both public and private sectors.

Council of Ministers begins process of decentralisation

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers Tuesday decided to delegate some of its powers to government ministries as part of the ongoing trend towards decentralisation of public administration.

They released a statement confirming the nomination of Minister of Finance Marwan Awad to tackle matters connected to fund and bid allocations particularly in matters related to public works and services.

The Council of Ministers also authorised the minister to sign agreements on behalf of the government related to granting communications members, technicians and experts allowances upon solicitation of their services by the government.

Furthermore, the Council of Ministers sanctioned Minister of Public Works and Housing Abdul Hadi Al Majali to negotiate and approve tenders for the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, provided that each bid does not exceed JD250,000.

The minister of public

works and housing has also been authorised to work in conjunction with other related ministries to negotiate and execute works undertaken by their respective ministries provided that each tender does not exceed JD 250,000.

Also Tuesday, Prime Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti set up a Telecommunications Advisory Committee, chaired by Minister of Post and Communications Jamal Sarairoh.

He stated that the committee would serve as a liaison for various organisations related to the telecommunications sector and would offer proposals and ideas for its development.

The committee will also advise the government on how to best promote telecommunications policies as well as suggest amendments to regulations and tariffs on telephone services.

The committee groups representatives of a number of ministries and the private sector as well as the Jordanian Armed Forces.

Reorganisation of health services scrutinised

AMMAN (Petra) — The government is proceeding with plans to expand and upgrade health services and promote preventive medicine, Prime Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti said Tuesday.

The plans will cover most nationals and particularly those from lower income levels who are covered by governmental health insurance, he added.

Speaking at a reunion of the Higher Medical Council (HMC), Mr. Kabariti said that the Ministry of Health was restructuring the country's health sector and its adjoining services, both public and private, so that citizens might be better served.

He stressed that the health sector is a basic component of the social security net which the government is determined to modernise and expand.

Following the council's meeting, Minister of Health Aref Bataineh said that the council reviewed the status of pharmacies in the Kingdom and resolved that all pharmaceutical graduates must pass a uniform test before they can practise the profession.

Governmental health insurance was also examined by the council which decided that the government should expand health services to cover the largest possible number of citizens including temporary workers.

Dr. Bataineh explained that the Ministry of Health has conducted a study in conjunction with the World Bank aimed at organising and upgrading private and public health services as well as their potential cost reduction.

He said that the \$500,000 study, which was financed through donations from Japan and the World Bank, is soon expected to take effect.

The HMC is chaired by the Prime Minister and groups the ministers of health, interior, higher education, planning and finance as well as representatives of the Royal Medical Services, the Jordanian Pharmacists Association, the University of Jordan, the Jordan University of Science and Technology and the Social Security Corporation.

Government moves to expand economic private sector

By P.V.Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Government moves to privatise state-owned commercial entities do not simply mean disposing of equity inasmuch as a drive to open up opportunities for the private sector leading to creating jobs and expanding economic activities, according to Planning Minister Rima Khalaf.

Privatisation of government entities is also an integral part of the economic reform programme that aims at full liberalisation of the economy, said Dr. Khalaf.

The planning minister, addressing a press briefing on Monday, also affirmed that the proceeds from the sale of government equity in commercial enterprises would not be appropriated as current expenditure but would be reinvested in projects that generate jobs and also for setting up what she described as social safety nets for the vulnerable sector of the society.

Dr. Khalaf cited the conversion of the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) as a commercial entity governed by the Companies Law and ongoing moves to commercialise and privatise the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) as examples of the government's objectives.

"There is a philosophy behind the privatisation process," she said. "It is not simply selling the government shares in commercial entities but opening up the relevant area for private sector operators."

Such opening, she explained, means natural expansion of economic activities by the private sector, thereby creating more jobs and more contribution to the country's econom-

ic growth.

The minister noted that the focus on giving the private sector a dominant role in the economy was not a new concept but the result of efforts launched since the early 90s.

"For the first time the private sector is now allowed to enter the power sector," Dr. Khalaf said, noting that amendments to the JEA law now permits the setting up of private sector run electricity-generation plants.

Similarly, she pointed out that private operators have already entered the Kingdom's telecommunications sector. She was referring to the concessions given to companies to operate cellular phone services and radio paging facilities.

Plans call for the eventual entry of the private sector into regular phone services.

"The government's philosophy is to open up all sectors of the economy to private operators while the state will act only in a regulatory capacity to prevent monopolies and protect the interests of the public at large from exploitation," said the minister.

A package of laws being prepared by the government should be seen in this context, she told the press briefing.

The proposed laws and amendments to existing legislation include a new Companies Law, an anti-monopoly law, a law on protecting national economy, and a law on overhauling the Amman Financial Market (AFM).

Dr. Khalaf said the proceeds from the sales of government equities would be split in half, with one half going to the Jordan Investment Corporation (JIC), the state's investment arm, and the other to the treasury.

"The funds will not be absorbed

into the state budget and allocated for expenditure," affirmed the minister, adding that the JIC would use its part of the proceeds for new investments in job-creating projects while the government would focus on creating "social safety nets" for those who are adversely affected by the economic reform programme.

The government has started moves to sell its equity in the Jordan Cement Factories Company and the Ma'in hot springs spa as well as in various hotels in the Kingdom.

Addressing concerns that privatisation of state entities could also mean dismissal of excess staff by their new private sector owners, Dr. Khalaf said the government was aware of the "social impact" of the process.

But, she said, the state will ensure that no summary dismissals would take place for a predetermined period of time after the private sector acquires the entities.

"After that period, say for example five years, the operators are free to exercise their options of staff," said the minister, adding that the predetermined period would be reasonable enough for the staff to improve their efficiency to deserve continued employment or find other jobs.

While the minister did not go into the details of the proposals, other officials have explained that the government was no longer prepared to maintain a bloated civil service and did not feel that it was obliged to tolerate inefficiency in state organisations simply as a means of curtailing unemployment.

Boy drowns in quarry pool

By Rana Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The body of a teenager reported missing since late Monday, was found in a water pool in a quarry in the Yajouz District on Tuesday, according to Civil Defence Department (CDD) officials.

A CDD official said that Ala' Abdul Karim Fadel drowned while swimming with his cousins in the off-limits area on Monday evening. Officials said the youth did not know how to swim.

"His cousins fled the area and did not report the drowning incident because they were frightened," the official told the Jordan Times.

He stated that officials made a preliminary search of the quarry area but found nothing. But when officials questioned the two teenagers who were with Mr. Fadel on Monday, the boys indicated the area of the pool where they said their cousin had sunk.

CDD frogmen spent 10 hours combing one third of the pool which has a total span of two dunums (2,000-square-metres) and is 10-metres deep in some areas, before locating Ala's body "between two wheels at the bottom of the pool."

Meanwhile, Salt police apprehended a 42-year-old man who on Monday gouged out the eyes of another man during a violent brawl, according to official sources.

One source said that the victim, Billala Ahmad, 25, paid a visit to the suspect, identified as Jalal H. When others had left the premises, a fight erupted between Billala and Jalal, and "the suspect gouged Mr. Ahmad's eyes out with his fingers."

Mr. Ahmad was rushed to Ibn Al Haytham Hospital, but surgeons were unable to restore his eyesight.

WHAT'S GOING ON

FILMS

**"Moliere" (pt. II) at the French Cultural Centre at 6:00 p.m.
**"How Green Was My Valley" at the British Council at 7:00 p.m.

THIRD JORDANIAN CHILDREN'S SONG FESTIVAL

**Seminar assessing the Children's Song Festival at the Royal Cultural Centre at 4:00 p.m.
**Presentation of children's songs contest at the Royal Cultural Centre at 6:00 p.m. (songs from Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Iraq, Palestine, Lebanon, Egypt, Yemen, Syria and Jordan).

LECTURES

**"Jerusalem in International Law" by Speaker of Palestinian National Council Salim Aj Za'noun at Bait Al Maqdis Forum (Petra Commercial Complex near Ramada Hotel) at 6:30 p.m.

**"The Role of National Institutions in Preserving the Palestinian National Identity" by Fathi Marshoud at Abdol Hameed Shoman Foundation, Jabal Amman at 6:30 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

**"Water" colours works by Safam Kanaan and Pia Hayes at Alia Art Gallery, Jabal Amman (Tel. 6393030, until Sept. 26).

**Works by artists from France, Algeria, Turkey, Morocco, and Egypt entitled "Tapis Volants" at the French Cultural Centre, Jabal Weibdeh, until Sept. 24.

Clinton wins backing of largest U.S. police union

CINCINNATI (R) — The largest U.S. Police union endorsed President Bill Clinton Monday, handing him a symbolic boost on the day Republican challenger Bob Dole unveiled his own anti-crime plan.

The 270,000-member Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), which first backed a presidential candidate in 1992 when it supported Republican George Bush, said it chose President Clinton for his positions on fighting crime and on protecting workers' rights.

President Clinton wasted no time using the endorsement to draw attention to his efforts to fight crime, flying to Ohio with FOP National President Gilbert Gallegos and addressing a campaign rally flanked by police officers.

"We support those candidates who support our fight against crime and our struggle for better working conditions, salaries and due process rights for all police officers in this country," Mr. Gallegos said as he gave President Clinton a lengthy and flattering introduction in Cincinnati.

"You have been with us the past four years and we intend to be with you the next four years," he added. President Clinton, who has assiduously cultivated the union, attending its annual memorial for slain officers and holding a special White House meeting with its officials last week, quickly returned the compliment.

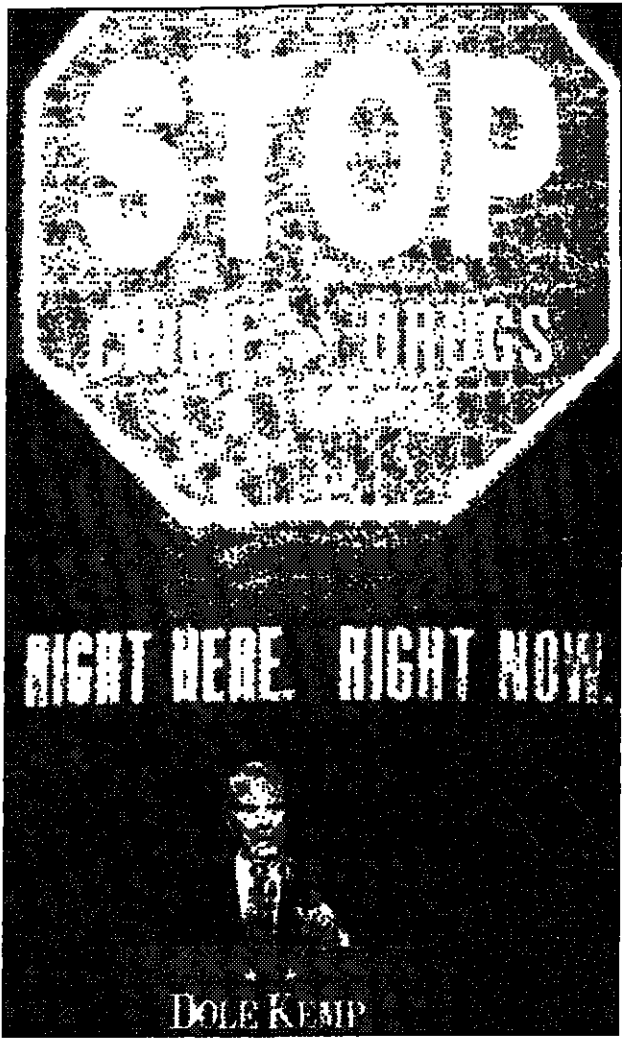
"I am very proud to have the endorsement of an organization representing 270,000 rank and file members of law enforcement who put their lives on the line every single day for the rest of us," President Clinton said to loud applause.

"If you will give us 50 more days we'll give you four more years of making our streets, our homes and our schools safer."

In an effort to emphasize his focus on crime, President Clinton Monday also proposed doubling the statute of limitation on certain violent crimes to 10 years from five.

Earlier, he got an update at the White House from Attorney General Janet Reno on federal efforts to reduce violent crime and called for using federal anti-racketeering laws to crack down on crime.

Although President Clinton's campaign officials suggested the FOP endorsement was not timed to coincide with Sen. Dole's crime speech, President Clinton's schedule Monday was



Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole talks about his plan to combat drugs and violent crime at Villanova University Monday (Reuters photo)

clearly designed to draw attention from the Republican's anti-crime package.

Campaigning in Pennsylvania, Sen. Dole announced a plan to fight drugs and crime with more money for prisons, stiffer punishments for young offenders and use of the White House as a bully pulpit to foster an anti-drug public mood.

"It is time to get serious about violent crime and drugs in a way that we have not seen in our government over the last four years," Sen. Dole said in a speech at Villanova University.

President Clinton's aides could barely conceal their glee at the timing. "We had planned to do a very tough anti-crime, anti-drug message as part of this ... trip," said White House spokesman Mike McCurry. "The Dole campaign did us a favour by adjusting their schedule to fit ours."

President Clinton has made fighting crime a cornerstone of his re-election campaign, appearing across the country with police and stressing laws passed during his term. These include the 1993 Brady Bill, which imposed a five-day waiting period for handgun purchases to conduct background checks, the assault weapons ban and the 1994 crime bill.

which called for 100,000 more police on the streets.

In choosing Ohio to announce the police union's support, President Clinton was also concentrating his energies on one of the handful of midwestern states that typically decide U.S. presidential elections.

President Clinton held a lead of about nine points in the latest poll conducted in Ohio, which has 21 of the 270 electoral votes needed to win the presidency, campaign officials said.

Sen. Dole said violent crime rates soared in the first two years of the Clinton administration. Drug use by teenagers more than doubled from 1992 to 1995, after falling in half in the previous 13 years, he said. He said the two are linked.

"The country is reaping the bitter harvest of what this administration's liberal policies have sowed," Sen. Dole said. Perceiving a potential vulnerability in President Clinton's admission of having tried — but infamously not inhaled — marijuana once, and in revelations of past drug use by some White House employees, Sen. Dole has sought to highlight the issue of America's drug problem.

"I will change the mes-

sage coming from the White House," he said. "Teenagers who have been deceived into believing that drugs are something you experiment with will hear a very different message from me ... There is right and there is wrong, and drug use is wrong."

Element's of Sen. Dole's plan included:

— Using the White House to "renew our commitment to a drug-free America." Sen. Dole, who speaks nostalgically of former first lady Nancy Reagan's "Just Say No" campaign, aims to cut teenage drug use in half by the end of his first term.

The White House would assist the creation of local anti-drug organisations and encourage the entertainment media to embrace an anti-drug message.

— Doubling federal aid to states for prison construction, now about \$405 million annually, to make sure there is enough capacity for offenders to serve their full sentences. Sen. Dole would encourage states to end parole for violent criminals.

— Prosecuting as adults those juveniles older than 13 who are charged under federal laws with violent crimes and allowing sentencing courts to consider previous crimes of juvenile offenders.

— Making prisoners work 40 hours per week, with earnings going to offset cost of imprisonment and paying restitution to crime victims.

— Hastening development of an instant background check of gun purchasers.

Republican Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Ridge said of the FOP endorsement of Mr. Clinton: "By and large it's misguided and misleading. If you, ask the men and women who are wearing uniforms in our communities, you'll find most of them support Bob Dole and Jack Kemp."

This week's crime and drugs theme gives a temporary back seat to the tax-cutting economic plan which has been Sen. Dole's campaign foundation, but which has yet to generate momentum to pull him closer to President Clinton in the polls.

"We'll talk about that all week long," Sen. Dole's spokesman Nelson Warfield said of the anti-crime message.

"We think that the economic plan is still our most compelling argument," he said. "But the Clinton administration's failure in the war on crime and drugs cries out for commentary as well."



President Bill Clinton reaches to shake the hands of his supporters at the Music Hall in Cincinnati Monday. Mr. Clinton made a campaign stop in the 'Queen City' and addressed crime issues with the Fraternal Order of the Police as a backdrop (Reuters photo)

Russia objects to pro-NATO stance in Romania-Hungary pact

MOSCOW (AFP) — Russia gave a mixed response Tuesday to a cooperation treaty signed by Romania and Hungary, saying it welcomed their intention to boost regional security but objected to their position on NATO.

A Foreign Ministry statement quoted by Interfax News Agency said the treaty signed by the prime ministers of Romania and Hungary Monday was "a sign of goodwill, the political responsibility of the two sides and their intention of making a worthy contribution to regional security."

However, the statement said Russia "cannot support the article indicating that the sides intend to back each other's efforts to integrate into NATO."

"Russia's attitude to enlargement of NATO eastward is well known in Hungary and Romania, as is the belief that our relations would only gain if this attitude were taken more fully into account," the statement added.

The governments of Romania and Hungary — both former Communist bloc countries — had been pressured to resolve their differences as a precondition to join-

ing the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

The treaty signed in the western Romanian city of Timisoara followed five years of tough negotiations.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin has repeatedly condemned the Western alliance's expansion plans, saying such a move could trigger a new post-cold war split in Europe and possibly even war.

NATO plans to hold a summit next year to launch expansion. U.S. President Bill Clinton has said he hopes it will be the most "historic" meeting in the alliance's history.

Russian Defence Minister Igor Rodionov will attend an informal meeting with NATO defence ministers in Bergen, Norway, on Sept. 25-26, Interfax reported, quoting a source close to Gen. Rodionov.

It will be his first visit abroad since he was appointed defence minister in July.

The NATO meeting will focus on the future of the NATO-led Implementation Force (IFOR) troops in Bosnia, whose mandate expires in December. Russian troops are serving with IFOR.

Pope, Reagan had 'secret alliance' against Soviet Union — book

NEW YORK (R) — Pope John Paul II and former U.S. President Ronald Reagan established an informal "secret alliance" to bring about the fall of communism, according to a new book co-authored by Watergate investigative reporter Carl Bernstein.

The book, *His Holiness: John Paul II And The Hidden History Of Our Time*, by Mr. Bernstein and Italian journalist Marco Politì, claims that Mr. Reagan and his Central Intelligence Agency Chief William Casey traded sensitive intelligence information with the Polish-born Pontiff because they viewed the 20 block-long Vatican as a "spiritual superpower."

The book, which will be published this week by Doubleday, also says that the Reagan administration secretly spent \$50 million to keep Solidarity, Poland's independent trade union organisation, alive from 1982 to 1989.

The Pope was kept informed, although he was careful not to learn too many of the details, the book said.

Mr. Bernstein and Mr. Politì did not draw a conclusion as to whether the Soviet Union or Communist

Bulgaria was behind the assassination attempt on the Pope's life in 1981, but the book said Mr. Casey and the Pope's closest aides were convinced that Bulgaria was involved — an idea rejected by the Pontiff.

The authors said the Pope did not want to see investigations pursued out of fear that if the Soviet Union was involved it would throw international relations into a hopeless crisis.

They quote the Pope as telling a close friend, "whoever was responsible was literally doing the work of the devil. It doesn't interest me because it was the devil who did this thing and the devil can conspire in 1,000 ways ..."

But the authors said they obtained top secret Soviet documents that detailed increased Soviet preoccupation with the Pope and the frustration of Soviet leaders with Poland for not cracking down on the Catholic Church in the weeks preceding the assassination attempt by Turkish gunman Mehmet Ali Agca.

After the attempt, the Pope ordered the statue of the Fatima Virgin brought to the Vatican where he prayed before it, asking for

the liberation of the Soviet Union from atheism.

The book said: "Beginning in the spring of 1981, the Reagan administration maintained an intelligence shuttle at the highest level between the White House and the Pope, who was regularly briefed by Mr. Casey and Vernon Walters, a former CIA deputy director. Between them Gen. Walters and Mr. Casey secretly visited the Pope about 15 times over a six-year period to discuss matters of mutual importance."

It added that the Pope received "some of America's most carefully guarded secrets and sophisticated political analysis: Information from satellites, from intelligence agents, from electronic eavesdropping, from political discussions at the White House, State Department and CIA. And the United States received information from the Pope."

The book also said that during this period of Vatican-U.S. collaboration, the Reagan administration reinforced the Pope's opposition to abortion by blocking funds for family planning programmes around the world.

Mother Teresa cheerful as brain scan shows no damage after fall

CALCUTTA, India (R) — Mother Teresa was alert and cheerful and her health was stable Tuesday as she recovered from a fall the previous day, doctors attending to the revered missionary said.

"Mother Teresa's general condition is stable. She is alert and cheerful, there is no neurological deficit and she is being kept under observation," a medical bulletin said.

Doctors attending to the Roman Catholic nun, who is 86, had said earlier in the day that a suspected spot had been found on her brain. But they later said there was no cause for alarm.

"CT (brain) scan results show nothing significant or alarming. We will keep her under observation for two or three days," said Dr. S.K. Sen, medical director at Calcutta's Woodlands Nursing Home.

"But as you know, she always insists on returning home. We may have to release her earlier. Another CT scan will be done within a week," he added.

Doctors said the nun had fallen from a

chair Monday, not from a bed as thought earlier. "She was writing a letter on her desk and when she tried to get up from the chair, she slipped," a nun told Reuters.

The missionary, known as the "saint of the gutters" for her devotion to the poor and destitute, was admitted to the same hospital on Aug. 20 with heart trouble, malaria and pneumonia. She was released 18 days later and told to rest in bed.

"Her condition is stable, but we are going to observe her for some more days," A.K. Bardhan, the hospital's leading heart expert, said earlier in the day.

On Monday, doctors said Mother Teresa continued to have an irregular heart beat, which she has suffered since her stay in the hospital in late August and early September.

"Her cardiac irregularity is still there, but that is nothing alarming," Sen said.

Mother Teresa, who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979, was fitted with a cardiac pacemaker in 1989.

Monaco's Stephanie files for divorce

MONTE CARLO (R) — Monaco's Princess Stephanie filed for divorce from her husband and former bodyguard Daniel Ducruet Monday after Italian magazines printed pictures of his sex romp with a Belgian stripper, her lawyer said.

Lawyer Thierry Lacoste's office said in a brief statement that Princess Stephanie, 31, glamorous daughter of Prince Rainier and the late actress Grace Kelly, had begun divorce proceedings after a reconciliation meeting was unsuccessful Sunday. The princess wrote to her father, as ruler of the tiny Riviera principality, and he was expected to refer the suit to the Monaco Court of Revision, which is likely to issue a final divorce ruling within three to five weeks.

Mr. Lacoste said. The latest upheaval in the Monaco royal family came just before the Grimaldi family celebrates 700 years in power next year, claiming to be the longest-serving European royal dynasty.

Prince Rainier long opposed Princess Stephanie's relationship with Mr. Ducruet, a former fish merchant and bodyguard, but finally accepted him into the family last year for the sake of their two children, Louis and Pauline, aged three and two. However, Italian magazines published explicit photographs last month of a naked Ducruet, 32, cavorting with a former "Miss Topless Belgium," 26-year-old dancer and model Fily Houteman. The magazine Eva Tremila and its sister publication Gente printed pages of pictures of Ms. Houteman undressing Mr. Ducruet, the pair entwined on a sunbed and finally both naked by a poolside.

French media reported that Mr. Ducruet had flown to Morocco to avoid publicity after a public row with Princess Stephanie which was photographed and published in glossy French magazines.

Runaway boy disappears again

LONDON (AFP) — A 15-year-old British boy who flew 7,000 miles to Malaysia using his father's passport and credit card last year has vanished from home again, police announced Tuesday.

Peter Kerry hit the headlines in February last year when he made the Malaysian trip after a family argument over spaghetti, and was only found after a six-day worldwide search. Now he has run away from home again, this time taking his own passport, some money and a change of clothing.

Police believe Peter is heading for Europe and they said they were "increasingly concerned" for his safety. The teenager, who has a skinhead haircut, was last seen early Sunday when he set off from home in Harrow, North London, on a paper round on his bicycle. He did not return home. Peter, who wants to become an airline pilot, has run away from home several times before, once to Paris and another time to Edinburgh. He took off for the Far East last year while his parents, brother Michael, 12, and sister Helen, nine, were out watching a football match, after he had broken into a locked steel cabinet to take his father's passport. A search was launched involving police, Interpol and the British High Commission.

Naomi Campbell weds in secret

LONDON (AFP) — British supermodel Naomi Campbell, 26, secretly married Italian clothier Luca Orlandi, 32, in Mauritius three weeks ago, press reports said here Monday. Orlandi, who owns a boutique in New York, met Ms. Campbell at a party earlier this year, said the reports, which added she had shared the news of her wedding with friends earlier but swore them to secrecy.

At least 51 MPs to join Japan's new party

TOKYO (AFP) — Japan's new Liberal Party, which intended to contest new elections, is poised to attract at least 51 lower house members, the Yomiuri Shimbun said Tuesday.

The newspaper said a survey found 33 members of the Social Democratic Party (SDP) and seven of the New Party Sakigake had said they were likely to join the new "democratic party", in addition to 11 small opposition members who had already decided to join.

SDP and Sakigake are part of the three-party ruling coalition, with Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto's Liberal Democratic Party being the main force.

Mr. Hashimoto is widely expected to dissolve the 511-seat lower house of parliament in late September for a snap election in October.

The looming election has focused attention on the new party which may be led by Health Minister Naoto Kan, Sakigake vice president and one of the most popular politicians in the country, and his former party colleague Yukio Hatoyama.

Mr. Kan, Mr. Hatoyama and two other promoters of the new party — Mr. Hatoyama's younger brother Kunio Hatoyama and SDP lawmaker Tomiko Okazaki — will set up a preparatory committee to launch the democratic party.

Kunio Hatoyama said he expected the number of new party members to be between 35 and 40, according to the Yomiuri, while another major daily, the Nihon Keizai Shimbun, quoted Mr. Kan as telling reporters Monday that about 40 parliament members may join the committee at the time of the launch.

According to the Yomiuri, some SDP members said they would make their decision after the SDP officially decides at a national meeting next Monday on its policy on joining the new party.

The new party hopes to challenge the LDP, which has 206 seats in parliament, and the opposition conservative group, the New Frontier Party, which has 167 seats.

Leading SDP members planning to join the new party include Management and Coordination Agency Director-General Sekisuke Nakashima, Labor Minister Takanobu Nagai and Post and Telecommunications Minister Ichiro Hino, it said.

Hashimoto apologises for neglecting Okinawa issue

TOKYO (R) — Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto Tuesday apologised for having neglected the problems of Okinawa and renewed his pledge to trim U.S. bases on the island during a brief visit to Japan's southernmost prefecture.

"I must admit and apologise on behalf of the Japanese people for not making enough efforts to understand the historical burden and feelings of the Okinawa people," Mr. Hashimoto told government officials in Okinawa.

Some 250 local officials, including Okinawa Governor Masahide Ota, heard the prime minister speak in the city of Ginowan, home to the U.S. Futenma Air Base, which the central government was looking to relocate as part of a U.S.-Japan agreement reached in April.

Mr. Hashimoto renewed his pledge to implement the April agreement with U.S. President Bill Clinton to reduce the amount of land occupied by U.S. Bases by one-fifth.

He revealed in his speech a recent proposal by Washington to jointly research the possibility of building an offshore heliport for Futenma Air Base

to move into.

The April agreement called for functions on Futenma to be relocated to other U.S. bases in Okinawa and Yamaguchi prefectures in exchange for returning land used by the air base, but local residents had strongly opposed the idea.

During his visit accompanied by a high-powered team of economic ministers, Mr. Hashimoto also vowed to promote economic development in Okinawa, Japan's poorest prefecture with an average income half the level of Tokyo's.

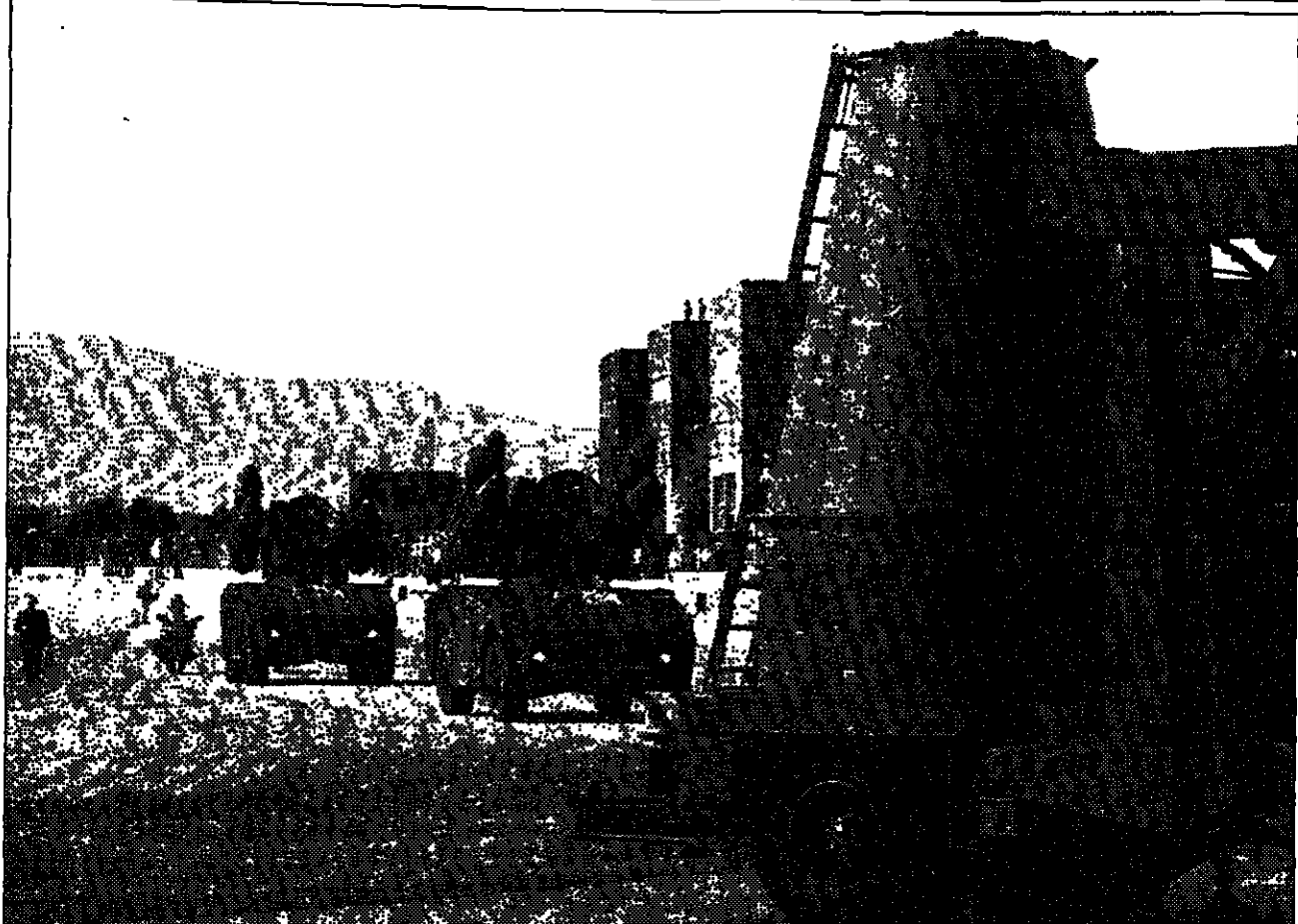
"I will make the utmost effort to tackle the Okinawa issue with the thoughts of the governor and Okinawa people on my mind," Mr. Hashimoto said.

Prior to Mr. Hashimoto's departure Tuesday, the cabinet formally launched a special government commission to work on reducing the scale of the U.S. forces and to plan long-term development schemes for the island.

After the one-day trip, Mr. Hashimoto is expected to huddle with top officials from his three-party ruling coalition and set a date for a general election.

Monaco's
Stephanie files
for divorce

World News



French soldiers drive a mobile radar unit near a truck used to carry nuclear heads after a ceremony which marks the end of a 25-year doomsday watch at the nearby Plateau d'Albion underground launch base. France shuts down its 18 S3D land-based nuclear missiles which were poised for launch from silos buried beneath scenic Provence countryside in southeastern France (Reuters photo)

Lebed in Chechnya to iron out problems in implementing peace deal

MOSCOW (R) — Russian security chief Alexander Lebed flew in to Chechnya Tuesday for talks with army commanders and separatist leaders to try to iron out problems in implementing a peace deal he signed with the rebels last month.

Interfax News Agency quoted Gen. Lebed, who is President Boris Yeltsin's personal envoy to the region, as saying his main aim was to clarify plans for a provisional administration in the region that would bring together pro- and anti-Moscow factions.

Gen. Lebed, who held talks with Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin at the weekend, also said he planned to "take a look at the turbulence" over the past week between Russian generals and the separatists over the exchange of prisoners and withdrawal of troops.

He was to meet the commander of Russian forces in Chechnya, General Vyacheslav Tikhomirov, and other military leaders at the Khankala army base near Grozny in the morning and planned to meet rebel Chief of Staff Aslan Maskhadov at the village of Novye Atagi in the afternoon.

Gen. Lebed said he might also meet separatist leader Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev and also visit Russian troops currently patrolling Grozny jointly with separatist forces.

Under the peace deal signed by Gen. Lebed and Commander Maskhadov on Aug. 31, Russian troops were supposed to be withdrawn from Chechnya and prisoners handed over by both sides. Gen. Tikhomirov halted the pullout almost as soon as it started last week, claiming the rebels were breaking the agreement.

Commander Maskhadov accused the general of brinkmanship.

Gen. Lebed dismissed rumours of an imminent attack on Grozny by forces loyal to pro-Moscow Chechen leader Doku Zavgayev but told Interfax that such talk showed the urgency of bringing the factions together in a coalition to avoid the mainly Muslim region collapsing into Afghan-style chaos.

Mr. Zavgayev himself, however, told ITAR-TASS news agency in Moscow it was too early to talk about a coalition, repeating his complaint that Russia had yet to properly define the new administration's tasks.

But an official of a largely pro-separatist assembly of Chechen political movements told TASS his body had already set up a 20-member coalition cabinet.

Gen. Lebed said he would also discuss setting up a "joint commission" in the near future, whose job would be to administer federal funds to rebuild Chechnya after

nearly two years of war.

The Russian military said a command post in the town of Argun was shot at overnight and troops returned fire. But no soldiers were hurt and the night was otherwise calm across the region.

Gen. Lebed said in an interview published Tuesday that about \$2 billion sent by Moscow for the reconstruction of the ruins in Chechnya have been stolen in the last 18 months.

Gen. Lebed, the top negotiator for ending the war in Chechnya, said in Komsomolskaya Pravda newspaper that the bulk of the money delivered to the authorities installed by Russian troops in Grozny had disappeared.

"Last year eight trillion rubles were delivered and this year two and a half trillion. That's 10.5 trillion rubles (\$2 billion). Of course, nothing has been restored," he said. "Ninety per cent of the money has been stolen."

Gen. Lebed said there were no hard figures yet, but estimated that "about \$12 to \$15 billion have been spent on the war," which began in December 1994, when President Boris Yeltsin ordered the army to restore Russian rule.

He did not say who he thought had siphoned off the Chechen reconstruction money.

Gen. Lebed has said that more than 40,000 homes have been totally destroyed in the 21-month war, in which Russian army troops, tanks, airplanes and helicopters have tried to crush an independence rebellion in the Muslim republic.

In May, the news magazine Itogi quoted senior Russian officials as saying that more than \$2 billion allocated for reconstruction in 1995 alone was spent illegally.

In February the Federal Audit Chamber, responsible for monitoring government spending, completed a probe into federal allocations for reconstruction in the breakaway north Caucasus republic.

The investigators quoted by Itogi found that 12.3 trillion rubles (\$2.46 billion) was spent on reconstruction in Chechnya up to Dec. 31, 1995, but there was "no legal basis" for the allocation of 11.2 trillion rubles (\$2.25 billion).

The audit chamber, which is independent of the government, said it could not track down what happened to all the funds due to the continuing war in Chechnya.

Officials said that humanitarian aid, including medicine, food and clothing had been sold off before ever reaching Chechnya.

Large amounts of money were also allegedly deposited in banks without being used for aid.

Cambodian flag flies over former rebel base

PHNOM PENH (AFP) — The Cambodian flag flew over the former Khmer Rouge base of Pailin for the first time in more than two years Tuesday as breakaway rebel leaders and government commanders met to discuss integrating the renegades into Phnom Penh's fold, a participant said.

The flag — blue and red stripes with a depiction of Angkor Wat in white superimposed — was raised in a ceremony before the meeting began as a symbol of "solidarity and friendship," said General Hul Savan, the commander of Military Region 5 and one of the government negotiators.

He described the meeting as "fruitful" but declined to give details about the results.

Earlier Tuesday, Co-Minister Of Defence Tea Banh said the aim of the meeting was "to push forward the integration of (Khmer Rouge and government) forces and territory."

The meeting came just three days after King Norodom Sihanouk granted a pardon to faction leader Ieng Sary who had demanded the amnesty before the convening of further peace talks aimed at a permanent ceasefire agreement.

The government side was expected to push for specific information regarding the numbers and locations of guerrillas loyal to Ieng Sary and then assist in drawing up plans to secure them and their families from attacks by hardline Khmer Rouge, officials said.

Since the Khmer Rouge split last month, the actual number of fighters who have broken away from the hardline rebel leadership has been unclear, with estimates from various sources ranging from 1,000 to 4,000.

Also under discussion at the meeting will be the promotion of the guerrillas to military ranks consistent with their status in the Khmer Rouge's National Army of Democratic Kampuchea, the officials said.

Tuesday's trip to Pailin marks the first time since 1994 that senior officers from Phnom Penh have travelled to the guerrillas' main economic base.

The Royal Cambodian Armed Forces briefly took Pailin that year but were driven out shortly afterwards when the rebels launched a major counter-offensive.

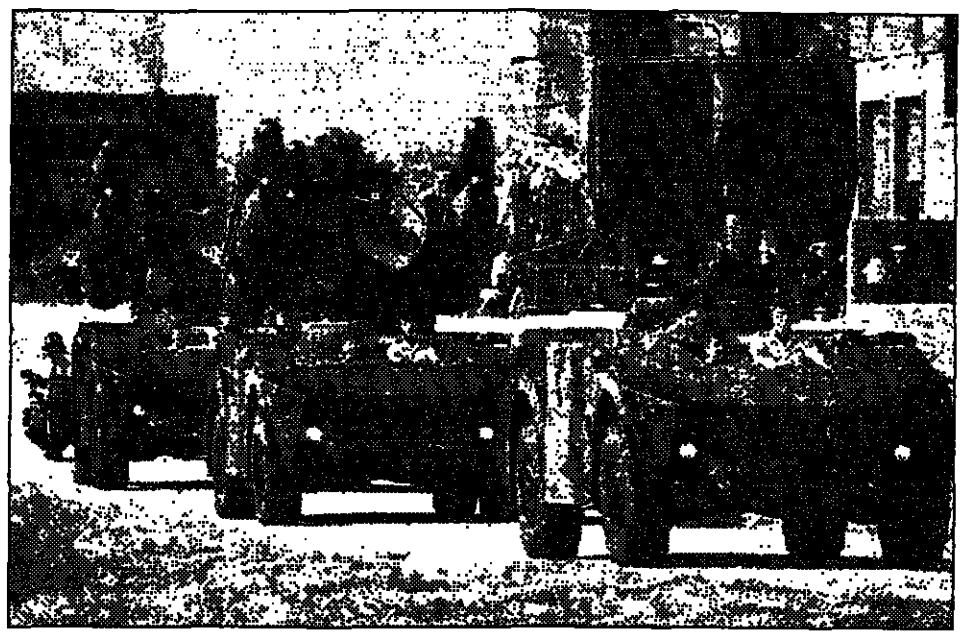
Plans to return Pailin and Phnom Malai, the other major guerrilla base controlled by the breakaway faction, to civilian control are also to be discussed by the working group.

France closes down land-based nuclear missile base in Provence

APT. France (R) — France ended a 25-year doomsday watch Monday, shutting down 18 land-based nuclear missiles at an underground launch base and leaving its nuclear defence solely to weapons aboard submarines and bombers.

"We are turning a page in history. Today is going to be a bit rough and a bit emotional, but at the end of it we will have the pleasure of knowing that our mission was successful," said General Jean Rannou, air force chief of staff.

"This has not been 25 wasted years but 25 years of peace," he said at a ceremony at Saint-Christol, headquarters of the First Strategic Missiles Group.



Trucks with radar and 'Crotale' mobile missiles parade during ceremonies which mark the end of nuclear alert in France (Reuters photo)

The process of closing down the base at the Plateau d'Albion is part of defence spending cuts ordered by President Jacques Chirac.

It began when two pairs of officers, in separate bunkers 40 kilometres apart, handed back keys and launch codes that would have enabled them to fire the missiles on direct orders from Mr. Chirac.

Each of the 18 S3D missile had been equipped with a one-megatonne warhead and had a range of 3,500 kilometres, far enough to strike Moscow or beyond.

It will take two years and nearly 400 million francs (\$77.5 million) for the missiles and their silos, buried beneath the scenic Provence countryside in southeastern France, to be completely dismantled.

Mr. Chirac has already decided to dismantle short-range Hades nuclear missiles in a restructuring after the cold war.

The missiles had been in place since 1971, a symbol of the independence of France's nuclear strike force.

Mr. Chirac decided last year to close the site, but the news was overshadowed by his simultaneous announcement that France was resuming nuclear tests in the South Pacific. The six tests ended in January after a torrent of criticism from around the world.

By coincidence, the base's closure coincided with a visit to Paris by Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer Monday to repair

ties strained by the nuclear testing row.

Communities near the Albion base are worried about the economic impact its closure will have on the area's economy but Defence Minister Charles Millon has promised no jobs will be eliminated.

Gen. Rannou said the base may eventually become a training centre for commandos or pilots of Franco-German Tiger combat helicopters, or an electronic intelligence listening post.

Bhutto urges India to stop blocking test ban pact

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto called on neighboring India Tuesday to drop its opposition to the global nuclear test ban treaty, but said Islamabad could not sign the pact until New Delhi did the same.

"Given our own security concerns, we are not in a position to sign unless India does, but we urge India to review its approach and to go with the rest of the world," she told Reuters in an interview.

India, a threshold nuclear power like Pakistan, has refused to endorse the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) because the five declared nuclear powers — the United States, Russia, China, France and Britain — have not agreed on a timetable for nuclear disarmament.

The U.N. General Assembly overwhelmingly endorsed the CTBT last week. But India vowed it would never sign or ratify the agreement and would thus prevent it from coming into force.

Pakistan and India both deny possessing nuclear weapons, but say they have the capacity to make them.

Describing the CTBT as one of the most significant developments of the post-cold war era, Ms Bhutto said Pakistan fully supported a global approach to nuclear non-proliferation.

"Some short-sighted elements in the sub-continent, in India and Pakistan, have opposed CTBT, saying that the West has a greater arsenal and we are lagging behind."

"But I often say that it is not a fair world and if we don't get around to the business of putting an end to the



Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto makes a point during an interview with Reuters at her residence in Islamabad Tuesday (Reuters photo)

weapons of mass destruction then the gap is going to continue to increase."

She said India, which exploded a nuclear device in 1974, should reject any pressure from its scientific or military community to carry out a second nuclear test, suggesting that computer simulation could provide an adequate alternative.

"The computers are still

there and the scientists will continue to play with computers if they want to," she said.

"I would urge India not to complicate the situation in the continent and put pressure on other countries that are resisting pressures of their own by indulging in any act that can be misconstrued as an act of adventure," she declared.

India and Pakistan have

been at odds since they won independence from Britain in 1947, fighting three wars, two of them over the disputed Himalayan territory of Kashmir.

Ms Bhutto, condemning "so-called elections" taking place this month in Indian-ruled Kashmir, did not rule out a resumption of long-stalled peace talks between India and Pakistan.

"I hope we would be able to assess the situation after the elections are concluded and then take a decision," she said. "It all depends on the aftermath of the so-called elections." Seven previous elections have not won over the Kashmiri people so an exercise for an eighth election seems rather futile," she said.

India says Kashmir, of which it rules two thirds and Pakistan the rest, is an integral part of its territory.

Islamabad wants mainly Muslim Kashmir to be allowed to vote whether to join Islamic Pakistan or Hindu-majority India.

New Delhi said Monday the second leg of state elections in Indian-ruled Kashmir was generally peaceful, but separatist groups opposing the polls accused authorities of coercion.

The first day of voting in other areas of the state was on Sept. 7, and the last two days will be on Sept. 21 and 30. The results are expected in the first week of October.

The state, torn by a six-year separatist revolt, is holding its first assembly elections since 1987. The last assembly was dissolved in 1990 after an outbreak of rebellion in which more than 20,000 people have died.

Former Indian minister arrested in corruption case

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian police arrested a former cabinet minister wanted in a corruption case as he flew in from London, dealing what local media called a fresh blow to the Congress Party still reeling from its general election loss.

Former Communications Minister Sukh Ram was detained by Federal Police at New Delhi's International Airport late Monday, minutes after he arrived in the Indian capital on a flight from London, authorities said Tuesday.

Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) spokesman S.M. Khan said the Federal Police Agency would question Mr. Sukh Ram about the discovery of more than \$1 million in cash stashed in his homes.

denied the corruption accusations, was out of the country when CBI agents raided his homes last month. He has said he was seeking overseas treatment for heart trouble.

Ambulances from two hospitals were waiting at the airport when Mr. Sukh Ram emerged from the Air India aircraft in a wheelchair, witnesses said. He was whisked to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and was put under CBI custody, Mr. Khan said.

"I am innocent," the Indian Express newspaper quoted Mr. Sukh Ram as saying when he arrived at the state hospital. "I am not feeling well. I am having pain in the heart."

The CBI spokesman said that on Tuesday Mr. Sukh

Ram would appear in court for remand proceedings or, if doctors found him unfit, face a magistrate in hospital. Then investigators would question him, Mr. Khan said.

Mr. Sukh Ram served in the cabinet of former Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, whose Congress Party was humiliated in general elections which ended in May. As communications minister, he spearheaded an ambitious drive to end the government's monopoly over telephone services.

The CBI has accused him of pocketing kickbacks from a private firm which sold the government radio equipment, causing the loss of some 16.8 million rupees (\$470,000) to the federal exchequer. But Federal Police have not filed charges.

Japan to discuss islands dispute with Taiwan

TAIPEI (AFP) — Japan has agreed to talks with Taiwan over a disputed island chain in the East China Sea that has caused mounting protests and boycotts against Tokyo, a senior official said Tuesday.

Vice Foreign Minister Cheng Chien-Jen said talks on the rich fishing grounds around the islands would be held in early October.

"It is inevitable that the sovereignty issue over the Diaoyu Islands will be touched on," he added.

He said the two countries were discussing "the level of negotiations" and would not say whether government officials would be involved.

Japan has not had diplomatic ties with Taiwan since switching its diplomatic recognition to mainland China in 1972.

Mr. Cheng said the Taiwan government hoped the meeting could be held in Tokyo.

Japan sent a retired government official to Taiwan in August for talks after Taiwanese fishermen threatened to send a huge protest flotilla to the islands.

Japan, Taiwan and China all claim the five uninhabited islands, known as the Diaoyu to Chinese and the Senkaku to Japanese. There have also been demonstrations in Hong Kong backing Chinese claims to the chain.

Protests have increased since the right-wing Japan Youth Federation erected a lighthouse on one of the islands in mid-July and Japan included the islands in its 200-nautical mile exclusive economic zone.

Japan's use of Coast Guard patrols to keep Taiwanese fishermen away from the islands since August have set off a growing outcry on the Nationalist island.

Political and pressure groups have staged protests and anti-Japanese campaigns. One group for reformed prisoners has threatened to send a mission to the islands to destroy the lighthouse. Other protest flotillas are also planned.

Stella Chan, a member of the National Assembly, plans to lead 100 boats to go to the Diaoyus this weekend. She went to the Foreign Ministry Tuesday to seek government support.

But the vice foreign minister said he told Ms. Chan the government wants to resolve the issue by peaceful and rational means. He asked Ms. Chan to reconsider the planned protest, saying it could affect the

Local governments said meanwhile it would be difficult to implement resolutions passed by provincial assemblies and county councils to boycott Japanese products and stop Japanese firms bidding for public contracts.

"Basically, we respect the resolution by the deputies, but the government must consider the issue from a legal standpoint," a spokesman for the Taiwan Provincial Government Supply Bureau told AFP.

Another Taipei county government official added: "Singling out a country for sanction is against international fair trade principles, which may affect our bid to join global trade organisations."

Syrian troop movements linked to 'faith' in Lebanese security

CAIRO (Agencies) — Syria is redeploying its troops in Lebanon in light of its "faith" in the ability of the Lebanese authorities to maintain security following years of civil war, Syrian Information Minister Mohammad Salman has said.

"After the first general deployment to end fighting (in 1976) a second phase was carried out to group the forces in strategic positions, observation posts and roadblocks," Mr. Salman told the Arabic daily Al Hayat.

"(The redeployment) reflects our faith in the growing capacity of the Lebanese security forces to maintain security" in the country ravaged by a 15-year civil war that ended in 1990, he added.

But other sources quoted by Al Hayat on Tuesday linked the redeployment to expectations in Syria that Israel was planning a military strike against guerrillas in South Lebanon led by the Iranian-backed Hizbollah.

Asked about an Israeli proposal to discuss an Israeli pullout from Lebanon as a confidence-building measure, Mr. Salman said his country rejected it because it would weaken the negotiating positions of Israel's Arab partners in the peace process.

Syria has officially rejected the so-called "Lebanon first" option, insisting that the starting point for new peace talks with the Jewish state must be an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights.

"Israel has repeatedly sought to isolate the Arab tracks from one another to weaken them. Separating the Syrian and Lebanese tracks is aimed at weakening them," he said.

"Negotiations between Israel and Lebanon will not be between a weak

party and a strong one that wants to impose its will.

"If an unfair solution is imposed on Lebanon, a large number of people will reject it and the fighting which Israel seeks will break out again between the Lebanese people," he said.

Syrian officials have stated previously that the redeployment of its forces in Lebanon was not linked to any developments in the region.

The troop movements were merely "part of military manoeuvres with live ammunition which started in July," Al Hayat said, noting that similar wargames were underway in Egypt.

Newspapers in Israel reported on Monday that Syria and Israel had reassured each other through U.S. mediators that troop movements by their respective forces were of a non-aggressive nature.

Israel in a message to Syria said it had "no intention on attacking Syrian forces either in Lebanon or Syria," the Israeli daily Yediot Aharonot reported. Syria maintains 35,000 troops in Lebanon while Israel has about 1,000 men deployed in a self-declared "security zone" in South Lebanon.

On Sunday Lebanese Foreign Minister Fares Boutros accused Israel of considering a new attack against his country.

Israeli leaders sought Tuesday to avoid a war of words with Damascus which they fear could spark an armed conflict.

Referring to widespread Israeli press commentary on the potential dangers of the "Syrian" movements, Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai warned against "a process of deterioration through words which could ultimately lead to results which one of the

two sides might not understand."

"There is no justification for the verbal escalation which has taken place in the past few days (although) it is appropriate to follow developments and take the necessary steps to display the responsibility which is required," he said in a statement.

But reflecting continuing Israeli uncertainty over the movement of Syrian troops into eastern Lebanon and towards the Golan Heights, Mr. Mordechai said there "is apparently more than one reason for the deployment of the Syrian army — some of which we accept and understand and some of which we find suspicious."

"We will do everything necessary so that we will not be surprised," he said.

President Ezer Weizman also expressed concern with the Syrian redeployment Tuesday but asserted that regardless of Syria's intentions, the movements posed no real threat to the Jewish state.

"Israel must be ready for any eventuality, but we must not give the impression that we are under pressure," Mr. Weizman said on Israeli Radio.

"Syria is not in a position to be able to surprise Israel like it did in 1973," he said.

On Monday Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu also joined the campaign to ease public concern over Syria's intentions.

"There is no reason to worry" about the troop movements, Mr. Netanyahu told Israeli Television.

But, despite the public relations effort, the Israeli media continued Tuesday to give echo to bewildering and alarm among military officials who have no clear idea why Syria has in recent days shifted

thousands of its troops into Lebanon's eastern Bekaa Valley and near Mount Hermon in the southeast.

Army radio and the daily Haaretz focussed notably on reports that Syria had deployed special forces from its 14th Army Division on the northern slopes of Mount Hermon, at the northern tip of the Golan Heights.

They said the elite units were capable of carrying out helicopter-borne attacks on Israeli positions similar to those launched during the lightning 1973 attack on Israel by Syria and Egypt.

Most Israeli commentators viewed the troop movements as part of a campaign by President Hafez Al Assad to pressure Israel into resuming peace talks where they broke off in February under Israel's previous and more dovish Labour Party.

Those talks were largely based on an Israeli willingness to trade the Golan Heights for full peace with Syria, a stand Mr. Netanyahu has refused to adopt.

"Syria wants to show that if it is kept outside the peace process, it is capable of creating a belligerent climate to undermine everything," said Itamar Rabinovich, the former Israeli ambassador in Washington who took part in the previous peace talks.

Some Israeli officials and military experts suggested that the Syrian redeployment may foreshadow stepped up attacks on the Israeli-occupied buffer zone in southern Lebanon by the Hizbollah militia.

Former army Chief of Staff and Foreign Minister Ehud Barak, said the redeployment "could signal an escalation of Hizbollah activities following the Lebanese elections" which ended over the weekend.



FARMING THEIR LAND: Iraqi Kurdish family farmers work on their land in the Kurdish northern city of Erbil. Northern Iraq is reputedly one of the most fertile areas in the entire Middle East and, if properly exploited, could meet a large part of Iraq's food needs (Reuters photo)

201 militants to go to court in Egypt

CAIRO (AFP) — A total of 201 militants accused of carrying out or plotting attacks in Egypt will soon be brought before the high court of state security in five separate cases, legal sources said on Tuesday. The militants are members of the Jihad and Gamaa Islamiyah armed groups and have been behind bars while public prosecutors investigated their cases, the sources said. The first case

involved 70 "terrorist" members of the Gamaa Islamiyah who were arrested in 1993 and 1994 on charges of carrying out "the most dangerous" crimes witnessed by Egypt in recent years, one source said. The suspects are accused of bombing banks in Cairo causing no casualties, and cinemas killing at least one person, the murder of two senior police officers and a gun attack on

a bus carrying Austrian tourists, wounding several people. The second case involved 35 Gamaa Islamiyah militants arrested at the beginning of 1996 on charges of plotting armed robberies of jewellery shops. The prosecution will also refer to the High Court of State Security 35 other Jihad militants, including British passport holder Akram Al Sherif, who were arrested at the end of 1995.

They are accused of planning to carry out "suicide operations" against public figures and security officials and of plotting to bomb Cairo's famous Khan Al Khalili Souk, a favourite haunt of tourists, court sources said. The fourth case involves 45 Jihad militants arrested in July and included many who had come from Syria and Lebanon, who were planning attacks in Egypt.

Lebanon legalises radio, TV, orders others to shut

BEIRUT (AFP) — The Lebanese government legalised several private radio and television stations on Tuesday and ordered dozens of others to stop airing news and political programmes as of Wednesday. Information Minister Farid Makari said the cabinet had agreed to grant licences to four television and 11 radio stations, most of which belong to pro-Syrian political leaders.

Their applications were approved Monday by the higher media council, a 10-member body appointed by the government and parliament, he said.

Future TV, owned by Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, National Broadcasting Network (NBN) due to be set up by House Speaker Nabih Berri, Murr TV owned by the brother of Interior Minister Michel Murr, and Lebanese Broadcasting Corporation International (LBCI), mouthpiece of the disbanded Christian Lebanese forces militia during the 1975-90 civil war, were given television licences.

Among the 11 radio stations, only three were allowed to air news and political programmes. They are the radios due to be set up by Mr. Hariri's future television and Mr. Berri's NBN in addition to LBCI's Voice of Free Lebanon.

Mr. Makari said the remaining media outlets were ordered to stop airing news bulletins and political programmes starting

Wednesday. They have until Nov. 30 to submit new applications for licences or face liquidation. More than 50 television and 100 radio stations mushroomed illegally during the 16 years of civil war in Lebanon.

The only legal media outlets were the state-run Tele Liban and Radio Lebanon.

The cabinet decision, which came after three years of heated debate, provided an exception for Manar Television and Voice of the Light Radio, belonging to the Iran-backed Hizbollah, the main guerrilla group fighting to force Israel out of southern Lebanon.

Both stations will be allowed to operate until the end of the Israeli occupation in southern Lebanon, but they were banned from airing political programmes and asked to limit their shows to ordinary and "resistance" programmes.

Asked whether Friday prayers, which often tackle political issues, may be broadcast, Mr. Makari refrained from giving a clear answer, saying the licensing of religious media outlets will be discussed next week.

The government failed to grant licences to the three most important and oldest radio stations: the Phalange Party's Voice of Lebanon, the Communist Party's Voice of the People and the Voice of the Nation of the Sunni Muslim Makassed Welfare Association.

Libya foiled bid to kill Qadhafi — Senussi

CAIRO (AFP) — The Libyan authorities this month foiled a bid to assassinate Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi and overthrow his regime, exiled Libyan Prince Idriss Senussi told the Arabic daily Al Hayat on Tuesday.

"The Libyan authorities discovered in the first week of September an attempt to overthrow the regime of Colonel Qadhafi which was being prepared by a group of army officers and members of Qadhafi's personal security," Prince Senussi said.

"This attempt was aimed at killing Colonel Qadhafi personally," he said.

Prince Senussi, a cousin of the late Libyan monarch deposed by Col. Qadhafi and who lives in exile in London, said "45 army officers, including 20 from Qadhafi's own clan, plotted the coup."

He said the Libyan authorities had arrested many civilians and members of the military forces in various parts of the country.

An officer whom he identified as Captain Khamis Al Ghanai Al Khatri Al Qadhafi was accused by the Libyan intelligence forces of planning and preparing the coup with his brother.

He claimed there were two plans to assassinate Col. Qadhafi.

"One consisted of putting poison in the camel milk which Col. Qadhafi drinks when he eats dates and the alternate plan consisted of placing a bomb in the security vehicle which precedes the colonel's personal car," he said.

"The colonel usually rides in the security vehicle when he wants to fool people. But only a few security guards know of this tactic," he said.

Prince Senussi stressed that the coup bid was discovered by accident by a "purge committee" investigating one of the officers in charge of Col. Qadhafi's security for corruption.

The officer admitted under duress that a coup was being planned, he said.

Prince Senussi went on to condemn Col. Qadhafi's rule and predicted that the colonel's regime was coming to an end.

"Qadhafi's stay in power means an increase in bloody confrontations with the opposition national forces which will not give up the struggle until after removing Qadhafi and his regime from power in Libya," he said.

Regent meets German team

(Continued from page 1)

towards democracy and open economy making the country as a model for others in the region.

Several members of the Lower House of Parliament were present at the meet-

ing. The two-member delegation, which arrived here Monday, is staying until Saturday. They are scheduled to meet the speaker of the Lower House and government ministers and tour projects financed by Germany and touristic sites.

IAF rejects joining cabinet

(Continued from page 1)

demanding that the law be amended to cancel the one-person, one-vote formula and to redefine constituencies in accordance with population concentration.

The 12th Parliament was the first to be elected under the one-person, one-vote formula that replaced the bloc-voting procedures followed under the previous law.

The holding of early elections would entail dissolv-

ing Parliament before it finishes its term in November next year.

House Speaker Sa'd Hayel Srour was Tuesday quoted as saying that there was no reason for holding early elections and dissolving Parliament. He criticised deputies who welcomed the idea, reminding them of the outrage that caused when the previous Parliament was dissolved two months before its term ended.

Peres: Netanyahu is isolating Israel

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Shimon Peres, Israel's opposition leader and former prime minister, assailed his right-wing successor Tuesday for plunging the country back into international isolation. "Israel is going backwards; we're cornered, threatened and isolated," Mr. Peres told a special session of parliament called to debate the stalemate in the peace process since Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu came to office in June.

"We will soon be able to say once again that the whole world is against us," Mr. Peres said in an angry address to the Knesset.

Mr. Netanyahu, head of the right-wing Likud Party, has undermined "every success obtained by the previous government," he said, singling out the Likud regime's refusal to accept the principle of giving up occupied territories in exchange for peace.

Mr. Peres, the main architect of Israel's Mideast peace strategy,

specifically hit out at Mr. Netanyahu's refusal to return to negotiations with Syria on the basis of seeking a secure, full peace with Damascus in exchange for giving up at least part of the Golan Heights.

He also dismissed Mr. Netanyahu's so-called "Lebanon first" attempt to resume Syrian peace talks by offering a conditional Israeli pullout from the buffer zone it occupies in Lebanon, Syria's client state.

"There cannot be a free peace without territorial concessions or a partial peace with Syria," he said.

"Those who think that Syria is going to give up the Golan Heights and leave Lebanon is living in a dream world," he said.

On recent Syrian troop movements in Lebanon which have stirred concern in Israel, Mr. Peres accused Mr. Netanyahu of playing down the implicit threat being emitted from Damascus.

"Before the 1973 war no

one knew what was happening and that is why we must be vigilant today," he said, referring to the surprise attack on Israel by Syria and Egypt.

Tuesday's debate was called by Mr. Peres' Labour Party following the first meeting on Sept. 4 between Mr. Netanyahu and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

Mr. Arafat subsequently complained that the new Israeli government was doing nothing to carry out its commitments under peace agreements signed by the previous government.

Over the weekend a meeting of Arab League foreign ministers threatened to freeze all rapprochement with Israel if Mr. Netanyahu does not end the stalemate.

EU and Orient House

The Israeli government will not receive the leaders of the European Union (EU) if they visit the unofficial Palestinian head-

quarters in the city Mr. Netanyahu said.

"We informed the European foreign ministers that if they visit the Orient House, we will not receive them," Mr. Netanyahu told the parliamentary foreign affairs and defence committee, according to committee secretary, Uri Radai.

Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring, president of the EU's council of ministers, said earlier this month that he expected EU leaders to continue meeting Palestinian officials at the Orient House.

Mr. Spring was responding from a request by Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy for the EU not to go to the Orient House. The three members of the EU ruling council have not visited Israel since the Netanyahu government took office in June.

Mr. Netanyahu said the Palestinians are engaged in "an unceasing effort to erode Israel's sovereignty in Jerusalem."

U.S.-Iraq tension on the rise again

(Continued from page 1)

Iraqi statements that they would not fire on allied aircraft or reconstitute air defences in the south.

Mr. Clinton insisted, however, "there was never any back and forth to the best of my knowledge."

Mr. Clinton sought to dispel criticism of his policy towards Iraq, saying other actions would have been too risky, such as sending ground troops in to force President Saddam out of northern Iraq or staging an attack that would have cost civilian lives.

"I feel good today that we did the appropriate thing in

the appropriate way and we got the results that we sought," Mr. Clinton said.

After the White House meeting, Republican Senator John McCain criticised the administration's handling of the crisis and questioned how meaningful sending several thousand troops to Kuwait was.

"In foreign policy, if you say you're not going to stand for an invasion of a Kurdish area and then you do relatively nothing, then there's a price to pay. And if you say you're going to respond disproportionately, as our secretary of defence said as short a time as two days ago, and don't, then there's a price to pay. And

when your allies become very uneasy, in fact not supportive except for the British, then you have a very serious challenge," Mr. McCain said.

The senator from Arizona said President Saddam was far better off than he was two weeks ago "and we have done nothing but launch 44 cruise missiles."

Democratic Senator Joseph Lieberman, however, described Mr. Clinton as "very resolute" that if the Iraqis did not respond to U.S. demands spelled out in a diplomatic note "they can expect to be hit again and to be hit disproportionately."

The diplomatic note dealt

with the location and condition of surface to air missile sites in southern Iraq, which were targeted in U.S. cruise missile strikes Sept. 3 and 4, he said.

"There is very much an ongoing situation in which the administration has stated a policy of containment, set some ground rules and communicated them to Saddam and if he doesn't respond, he'll pay," Mr. Lieberman said.

Sen. Patrick Leahy, a Democrat from Vermont, echoed Mr. Lieberman's comments, warning that Washington was in the position that "once we make a threat, we have to carry out that threat."

"It's very clear to Saddam Hussein there are things we expect him to do. If he doesn't do it, we will carry out that threat," Mr. Leahy said. "Frankly, if he just waits to see what we would do, if he doesn't carry out what we've asked him to do, then he is making a very, very big mistake."

Envoys from Kuwait, the strongest regional supporter of Washington's attacks on Iraq, toured Arab capitals on Tuesday to justify the continuing U.S. military buildup in the Gulf.

Information Minister Sheikh Saud Nasser Al Saud Al Sabah said after talks in Cairo with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak

that Kuwait still felt threatened by President Saddam.

"We don't deal with words but with realities which we see clearly in Iraq's south and these are worrying," Sheikh Saud told reporters before leaving for talks in Syria.

Kuwaiti Defence Minister Sheikh Ahmad Hamoud Al-Jaber Al Sabah left to tour some of the other five members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah flew to London on Monday night from Paris for consultations with British officials.

Israel agrees to let PNA import more

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel has agreed to expand the list of goods the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) can import from other Arab countries, Finance Minister Dan Meridor said Monday.

An agreement will be signed next week, Mr. Meridor told reporters after the first working meeting under the new Israeli government of the Israel-Palestinian Joint Economic Committee. He did not provide details of the agreement.

Israel and the PNA have a customs union setting out the level of duties on imports from third countries. There is a separate list of goods the Palestinians can import from countries that do not trade with Israel and the two sides

have agreed to expand this list. Israel and the PNA also agreed to set up committees to address a number of economic issues.

One committee will discuss increasing the number of permits for Palestinian businessmen seeking to enter Israel.

Another will examine the issue of taxes collected by Israel that must be transferred to the PNA as well as debt owed by the PNA to Israel, mainly to the phone and water companies and hospitals.

A third committee will examine Palestinian complaints that Israel has made it difficult for them to move goods into Israel and parts of the Palestinian self-ruled areas in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Saudi king urges private sector to employ nationals

DUBAI (R) — Saudi Arabia's King Fahd has called on the private sector to employ more Saudi nationals, the Saudi Press Agency reported Tuesday.

Saudi Arabia is facing the tough challenge of finding more jobs for its citizens and maintaining a generous welfare system at a time of state belt-tightening, economists say.

Of the 18 million people living in Saudi Arabia, six million are expatriates. Fewer than seven per cent of private sector employees are Saudis, economists say.

The agency said the king, during the weekly cabinet meeting on Monday, "urged the private sector to exert its optimum endeavour to create new employment avenues for Saudi graduates trained

and educated in specialities required by the kingdom's society".

Some economists estimate unemployment in Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil producer, as high as 20 per cent and climbing. Sixty per cent of the population is under the age of 20.

The kingdom is using a big stick method with the private sector by withholding loans from companies of 20 people or more which do not increase Saudi labour by at least five per cent.

Saudi citizens had for decades favoured well-paid, half-day managerial jobs in the state sector, but the government can no longer create more public sector jobs to accommodate them.

Efficiency drive at U.N. cuts paperwork by 27 per cent

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) — The United Nations Monday outlined results of an efficiency drive which has led to the volume of paper documents, weighing some 2,500 tonnes a year, being cut by 27 per cent.

At a news conference here, top U.N. financial officer Joseph Connor, who chairs the seven-person efficiency board, said that 400 projects had been identified to ensure that the world

body would provide "better service, better value and better management" in the next century.

The board, which was set up last year by U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, submitted its first progress report on Monday, on the eve of the 51st U.N. General Assembly session.

The report notes that the cost of processing documents in New York and

Geneva alone was \$290 million in 1992-93, and \$300 million in 1994-95.

"In addition to their cost, the volume of documents, more than 2,500 tonnes a year, has resulted in many complaints about their length and number," the report says.

The efficiency board ensured that in New York, the volume of production declined by an estimated 27 per cent in the first six

months of 1996, by cutting the length and number of documents, and by reductions in the number of copies printed.

Mr. Connor was unable to give a dollar figure for the savings, but in Geneva, savings of \$2.7 million were forecast for 1996 after a documentation volume cut of 10 per cent.

Many of the savings outlined Monday had been achieved by an improved

use of information technology, including distribution of documents on the Internet, while cuts had also been made in travel budgets. U.N. staff jobs have meanwhile been reduced by 9,000 in the course of this year.

U.S. Ambassador Madeleine Albright, whose country has been pushing for U.N. reform, welcomed the fact that "momentum generated by the member states has finally brought

concrete results."

"This report is a sign that the U.N. is changing how it does business," she said in a statement.

But asked whether the United States might reconsider its opposition to a second term for Dr. Boutros-Ghali in the light of the report, a U.S. official told AFP that "it won't change it one bit. Our decision is irrevocable."

Strong oil prices slash deficits of Arab Gulf countries

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Strong oil prices have slashed budget deficits of Arab Gulf states to their lowest ever level and some of them are projected to record surpluses this year, officials said Tuesday.

The surge in crude prices because of the Iraq-U.S. crisis and low oil inventories in industrial countries also enabled the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states to record high real growth in their economies.

Saudi Arabia, the world's oil superpower, hopes its forecast \$4.9 billion shortfall will dissipate at the end of 1996 while an expected

surplus from higher crude export earnings would go to the reserves.

With crude prices staying nearly \$3 higher than their projected level in the budget and non-oil earnings growing, the kingdom's income will likely be nearly \$3 billion higher than its estimated expenditure.

Its economy, which accounts for nearly a quarter of the total Arab gross domestic product (GDP), is also set to grow by around six per cent, one of its highest rates since the end of the 1991 Gulf war, official figures showed.

In Kuwait, high oil income

will likely slash the real 1996 deficit to around \$2.3 billion from a projected \$4.3 billion, according to the Abu Dhabi-based Arab Monetary Fund (AMF).

"High oil prices will help Kuwait in its attempts to gradually eliminate the deficit," the fund said in a report about Arab economies. "In 1997, the deficit is expected to reach around \$1.67 billion compared with nearly \$3.8 billion, which had been projected earlier."

It said Kuwait's GDP would grow by more than two per cent in real terms despite lower government

investment as part of economic reforms.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE), the second biggest GCC oil producer, has projected a growth rate of six per cent and lower budget deficit.

But bankers said they expected the \$290 million shortfall to disappear at the end of the year because of high oil prices and unchanged spending.

The price of OPEC's basket of seven crudes has averaged \$19.17 until Sept. 12, its highest level since the oil boom of the early 1980s.

It is also around \$3-\$5 above the price assumed by GCC governments in calculating their annual budgets. They project low prices to stave off an economic crisis that could be caused by sudden price fluctuations.

Oil provides more than two thirds of the total income of the GCC countries and this had made their economies vulnerable to any price changes.

Analysts expect oil prices to remain strong until the

end of the year because of high seasonal demand in the last quarter.

With their oil exports staying at around 11.5 million barrels per day (bpd), the earnings of the six members are expected to top \$80 billion in 1996, more than \$5 billion above the 1995 revenues.

"1996 looks to be one of the best years for the GCC. Their economies are performing better and their budgets will be in a much better shape," a Saudi banker said. "Our expectation is that the combined deficit in the GCC budgets this year will dip to one of its lowest ever levels."

The AMF, the Arab League's main financial institution, said Oman's economy would record a real growth rate of 5.5 per cent in 1996 while the GDP of the remaining two GCC members — Bahrain and Qatar — would also perform better.

Oman said high oil prices and spending discipline enabled it to slash the actual

budget deficit to around \$63.7 million in the first half of 1996 from nearly \$286 million in the same period of 1995.

"I think the deficit could be totally stemmed by the end of the year, thanks to high oil prices and government measures to activate the economy," Muscat Stock Exchange Director Mahmoud Al Jarwani, told AFP.

HOROSCOPE FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 1996

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You are full of energy and can handle career, public or credit affairs efficiently today, so get busy early and you can make great progress.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 21) You have fine ideas and should consult with those who have made a big success and can be helpful to you in putting them across.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) View all of your practical affairs wisely and then use your good ideas so that greater prosperity can be your's in the days ahead.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Don't be so sensitive with allies who are very businesslike, and then there can be greater cooperation between you and them.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) If you plan your time wisely today, your career activities will go smoothly and efficiently. Listen to what a loved one has to suggest for achieving success.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Get in touch with those you want to join you in some recreational activities and set up appointments early. Show that you have vision.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Even if in the business world today, think about how to improve the condition at your home and gain more harmony there.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You are highly energetic today and accomplish a good deal with the fellow associates. Be dynamic in your thinking and activities.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Get busy and get financial and practical difficulties nicely solved today and stop being concerned about situations which you have no control over.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Get down to basics and make your wishes and ambitions very practical. See those who think along the same lines as you do.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Make practical plans for the days ahead and stop wasting time foolishly, and expand quickly. Impress your mate with some creative ideas.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Look to older friends for ideas which can bring you greater success. Then please them in a practical fashion which can be prosperous.

Birthstone of September: Sapphire — Lapis Lazuli.

IMF presses European Union to meet Maastricht criteria

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is urging the European Union to respect the strict financial requirements set out in the Maastricht treaty ahead of monetary unification.

The recommendation came in the IMF's annual report and was based on discussions among fund directors last March.

"Most directors thought that if the qualifying criteria were loosened, the initial credibility of the European Central Bank would be affected adversely," the report said.

It added that the requirements on public finance, inflation, long-term interest charges and exchange rates "had played a central role in disciplining macroeconomic policies in many European Union countries" despite a regional economic slowdown.

On the question of budget deficits, the report said directors "favoured a bold approach to consolidation."

While IMF directors agreed that "more flexible labour markets in Europe were essential for realising the full benefits of monetary union, views diverged on the timing and on the importance of labour market reforms."

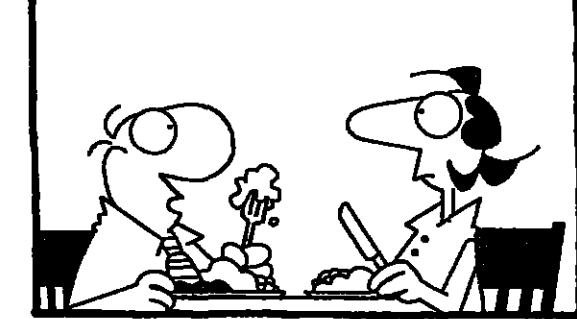
Once the European Union embarks on the final phase

of monetary union, according to the fund, there should be "strong and symmetric intervention commitments to support the exchange rates of countries selected to participate" in order to "avoid speculation on the exchange rate."

IMF executives added that the fund should remain vigilant in its monitoring of the European integration process to "identify potential market tensions."

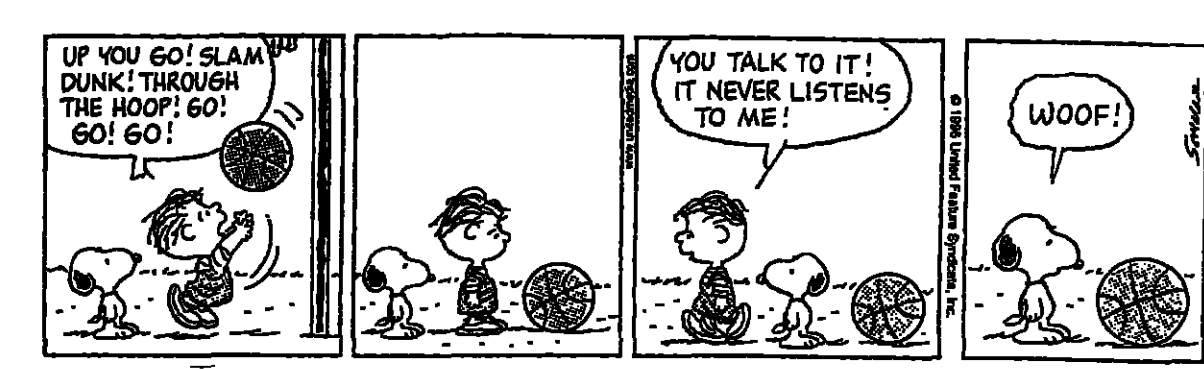
THE BETTER HALF. By Glasbergen

GLASBERGEN



"My boss says I need to be more energetic, loyal and enthusiastic. He hired a poodle to train me."

Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



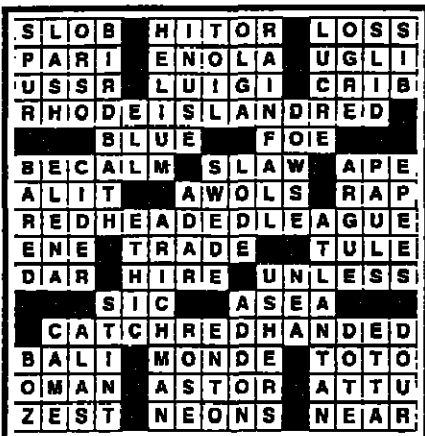
THE Daily Crossword by Frederick T. Buhler

ACROSS

- 1 Tablelands
- 6 Conveyance for Jim and Huck
- 10 Moby Dick's pursuer
- 14 Hebrew letter
- 15 Leading light
- 16 Fashion
- 17 Right-hand page
- 18 Singer Tennille
- 19 Times of note
- 20 Steels oneself
- 23 Author Ambler
- 24 There are 1,760 to a mi.
- 25 Permit
- 26 Cudgel
- 28 Corn units
- 31 Sniggler's catch
- 33 "Exodus" hero
- 34 Greek covered walks
- 36 Workplace watchdog; abbr.
- 40 Concentrates exclusively
- 44 Pung
- 45 Farm inventor
- 46 Drop off
- 47 Barely remembered
- 50 State of agitation
- 51 Doctors; abbr.
- 52 Alias letters
- 55 Dandy
- 57 She: ft.
- 59 Eats an evening meal ravenously
- 65 Eli's alma mater
- 66 Nobelist Wiesell
- 68 Plains Indians
- 69 Poet Teasdale
- 70 Gooled
- 71 Sensible
- 72 Waste allowance
- 73 Valtinators

DOWN

- 1 Planet
- 2 Type of power; abbr.
- 3 Hiding something
- 4 More appropriate
- 5 Most ostentatious
- 6 Alphabet run
- 7 On the crown
- 8 Imagination
- 9 Electron tube
- 10 USA word; abbr.
- 11 Every sixty minutes
- 12 Saw
- 13 Harass
- 21 Runs away
- 22 Expend
- 23 Ingots
- 27 Seed coat
- 29 "The — Not Taken" (Frost)
- 30 Fills to excess
- 32 Fate
- 35 British gun
- 37 Asian land
- 38 Circle
- 39 Connectives
- 41 "Kookie" Byrnes
- 42 Indians
- 43 Japanese carved ivory items
- 48 Suppositions
- 49 Unpretentious
- 52 Chasm
- 53 Eucalyptus lover
- 54 Exhausted
- 58 Extremely opposite
- 59 Pinnacle
- 60 Head of France
- 61 Telegram
- 62 Tidy
- 63 Basin accessory
- 64 Energy units



Palestinian company produces Marks and Spencer pants

NABLUS, West Bank (AFP) — A Palestinian company has begun producing pants for the famous British clothier Marks and Spencer, owners said Monday. The Al Aqqad Clothes Company, based in

Nablus town in the northern West Bank, began producing the pants in January after winning the contract, the company's deputy managing director Essam Al Aqqad told AFP.

The company assembled 3,000 pairs of slacks for Marks and Spencer and "we will soon sign another deal for 24,000 pairs of Marks and Spencer jeans," Mr. Aqqad said. The pants bear the international clothier's brand name plus the label

"made in the West Bank and Gaza" and are distributed by Marks and Spencer abroad. "Marks and Spencers could have found factories to produce cheaper, but our production meets the more difficult and pre-

cise British specifications. That is why they chose us," said an administrator, Mohammad Maqbul. The Aqqad factory, employing 185 workers, produces over 50,000 pants and shirts a year, aside from the Marks

and Spencer contract. With annual sales of around \$1 million, over 60 per cent of their production is sold in Israel.

The closure of the Palestinian territories imposed by Israel in February has forced many clothesmakers in the West Bank and Gaza to shut down their production.

But Aqqad has been able to get its production into Israel and abroad via a Palestinian marketing com-

Forbes:
Oprah Winfrey still highest-paid

NEW YORK (AFP) — Television personality Oprah Winfrey remains by far the highest-paid celebrity in the world, with estimated earnings of nearly \$100 million in 1996, Forbes magazine has reported.

The "talk-show" hostess led Forbes' annual ranking, earning \$97 million in 1996, compared to \$74 million in 1995, for a two-year total of \$171 million. She led a group that included movie director Steven Spielberg, the Beatles and Michael Jackson, who made \$150 million, \$130 million and \$90 million respectively.

Each year, Forbes magazine ranks the top 40 best-paid entertainers, based on published reports, contracts and tour schedules.

The magazine takes each star's revenues over the preceding two years to take into account the wide fluctuations typical of celebrity salaries.

The Rolling Stones came in fifth, with \$77 million, followed by the Eagles, with \$75 million and Arnold Schwarzenegger and illusionist David Copperfield, tied at \$74 million.

After earning \$8 million in 1995, rock group Kiss was to reach \$27 million in 1996, which would place them just behind Luciano Pavarotti, who was in 27th place with \$36 million.

But Pink Floyd, Elton John, Billy Joel, Aerosmith, Boyz II Men and Bon Jovi fell from the top 40, as did actress Demi Moore.

DAILY BUSINESS BEAT

A review of news from the Arabic press

| Major Currencies & Cross Rates | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| Currency | USD | DEM | GBP | CHF | JPY | KWD | ILS | SAR | TRY |
| US Dollar | 1.5132 | 0.6427 | 1.2435 | 110.37 | 1.3709 | 1525.00 | 1.6980 | 5.1429 | |
| DE Mark | 0.6609 | | 0.4244 | 0.8218 | 72.93 | 0.9065 | 1007.33 | 1.1208 | 3.3985 |
| GB Sterling | 1.5559 | 1.5559 | | 1.9351 | 171.65 | 2.1330 | 2372.75 | 2.6388 | 8.0016 |
| CHF Franc | 0.8942 | 121.59 | 0.5183 | | 88.73 | 1.1016 | 1226.39 | 136.42 | 4.1325 |
| JP Yen | 0.0091 | 1.3702 | 0.5818 | 1.1260 | | 1.2413 | 13.81 | 153.57 | 4.6567 |
| CA Dollar | 0.7284 | 1.1035 | 0.4696 | 0.9052 | 1.24 | | 1115.32 | 1.2368 | 3.7861 |
| IT Lira | 0.0007 | 0.9916 | 0.4210 | 0.8815 | 1383.70 | 0.8984 | | 11.11 | 3.7302 |
| NL Guilder | 0.5896 | 89.17 | 0.3786 | 73.31 | 65.03 | 0.8078 | 898.54 | | 3.0306 |
| FR Franc | 0.1844 | 0.2941 | 0.1248 | 24.1672 | 21.44 | 0.2664 | 32.96 | 32.9600 | |

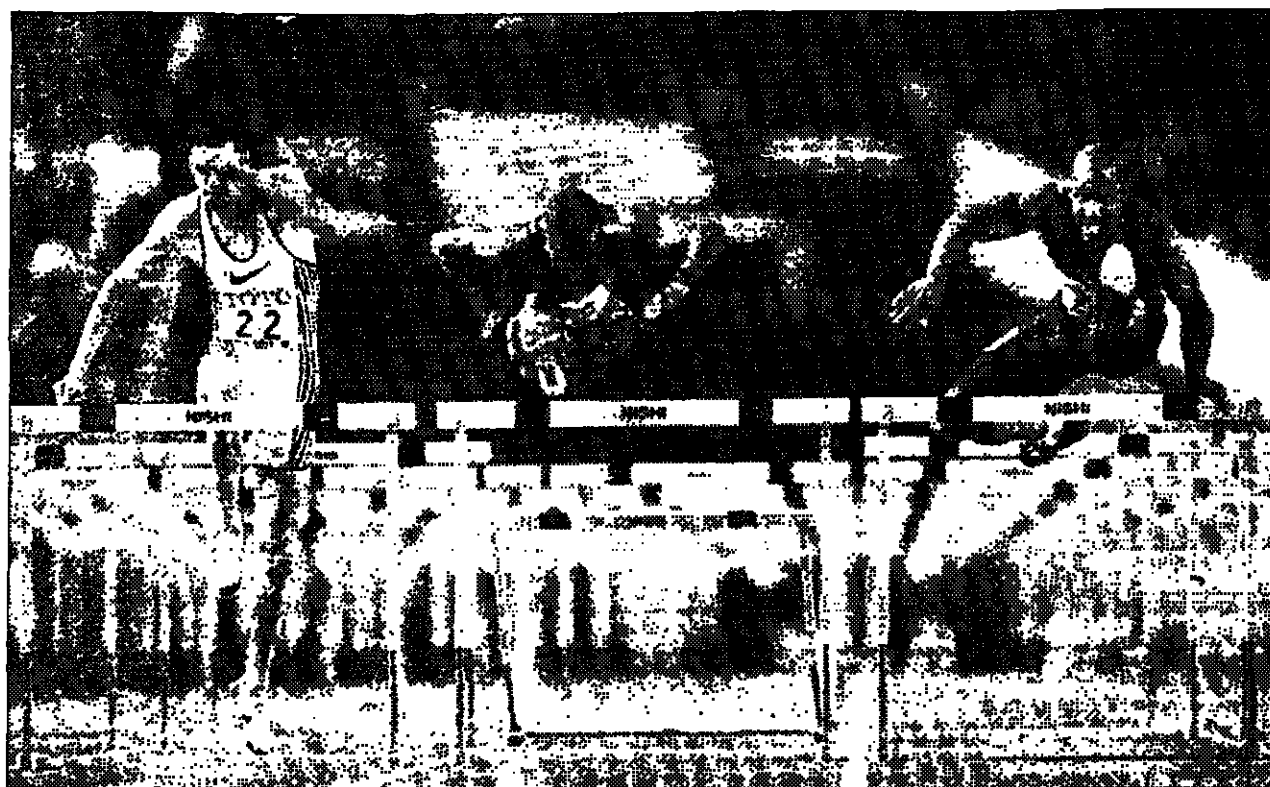
| Mid-East Currencies | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--|--|--|--|
| Currency | USD | DEM | GBP | CHF | JPY | | | | |
| SA Riyal | 0.2666 | 0.4037 | 0.17138 | 0.33184 | 29.4481 | | | | |
| AE Dirham | 0.2723 | 0.41222 | 0.175 | 0.33888 | 30.0716 | | | | |
| KW Dinar | 3.3350 | 5.04796 | 2.14362 | 4.1511 | 368.324 | | | | |
| BH Dinar | 0.3770 | 0.41608 | 1.70503 | 3.30142 | 292.997 | | | | |
| CY Pound | 2.1398 | 3.2386 | 1.3751 | 2.6613 | 236.214 | | | | |

| Metal Prices | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|------|-------|--------|-----------------|-------|--------|------|-----------------|--------|
| Metal | Unit | Price | Change | Unit | Price | Change | Unit | Price | Change |
| Gold (oz) | | 382.3 | | Gold (oz) | | 382.3 | | Gold (oz) | |
| Silver (oz) | | 5.05 | | Silver (oz) | | 5.05 | | Silver (oz) | |
| Platinum (oz) | | 388.4 | | Platinum (oz) | | 388.4 | | Platinum (oz) | |
| AL (3 Months) | | 1420 | | AL (3 Months) | | 1420 | | AL (3 Months) | |
| CU (3 Months) | | 1890 | | CU (3 Months) | | 1890 | | CU (3 Months) | |
| Zinc (3 Months) | | 1023 | | Zinc (3 Months) | | 1023 | | Zinc (3 Months) | |
| Lead (3 Months) | | 775 | | Lead (3 Months) | | 775 | | Lead (3 Months) | |
| NI (3 Months) | | 7430 | | NI (3 Months) | | 7430 | | NI (3 Months) | |

| Main Equity Indices | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|----------|--------|-------|---------|---------|---------|--|--|--|
| Index | Value | Change | % Chg | High | Low | Pr Cls | | | |
| New York | 5876.99 | -12.21 | -0.21 | 5896.22 | 5849.82 | 5889.2 | | | |
| DOW JONES | 5876.99 | -12.21 | -0.21 | 5896.22 | 5849.82 | 5889.2 | | | |
| New York | 5876.99 | -12.21 | -0.21 | 5896.22 | 5849.82 | 5889.2 | | | |
| S&P 500 | 5876.99 | -12.21 | -0.21 | 5896.22 | 5849.82 | 5889.2 | | | |
| London | 3972.3 | -4.9 | -0.12 | 3986.7 | 3965.9 | 3977.2 | | | |
| FT-SE 100 | 3972.3 | -4.9 | -0.12 | 3986.7 | 3965.9 | 3977.2 | | | |
| Tokyo | 21310.59 | 487.95 | 2.25 | 21365.9 | 20929.1 | 20842.6 | | | |
| Nikkei 225 | 21310.59 | 487.95 | 2.25 | 21365.9 | 20929.1 | 20842.6 | | | |
| Paris | 2089.86 | -5.33 | -0.26 | 2090.71 | 2073.37 | 2086.19 | | | |
| CAC 40 | 2089.86 | -5.33 | -0.26 | 2090.71 | 2073.37 | 2086.19 | | | |
| Frankfurt | 2628.06 | -1.79 | -0.07 | 2629.89 | 2622.73 | 2629.87 | | | |
| DAX | 2628.06 | -1.79 | -0.07 | 2629.89 | 2622.73 | 2629.87 | | | |

| JOD Cross Rates | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|--------|--------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Currency | Buy | Sell | | | | | | | |
| US Dollar | 0.708 | 0.710 | | | | | | | |
| GB Sterling | 1.014 | 1.017 | | | | | | | |
| DE Mark | 0.4681 | 0.4704 | | | | | | | |
| CH Franc | 0.5699 | 0.5727 | | | | | | | |
| FR Franc | 0.1376 | 0.1383 | | | | | | | |
| JP Yen | 0.5426 | 0.5458 | | | | | | | |
| NL Guilder | 0.4175 | 0.4196 | | | | | | | |
| IT Lira | 0.4641 | 0.4664 | | | | | | | |

| AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|------------------------|-------|-------|------------------|------------------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|--------|
| HOUSING BANK CENTER AMMAN - JORDANI | | | | | | | | | | |
| TELEPHONE: 607171 / 607119 | | | | | | | | | | |
| GRAND TOTAL MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR TUESDAY 17/09/1996 | | | | | | | | | | |
| PRICE | 12 MONTHS | COMPANY'S NAME | P / H | DIV. | NO. OF SHARES | NO. OF SHARES TO | VALUE TRADED | OPEN PRICE | CLOSE PRICE | CHANGE |
| 252.000 | 204.000 | ABNA BANK | 13.4 | 1.43 | 20 | 466 | 112975 | 247.00 | 245.00 | -2.00 |
| 4.700 | 4.250 | ALBANK AMMAN BANK | 9.2 | 1.37 | 1 | 5000 | 22282 | 22282 | 2.45 | 0.00 |
| 3.800 | 3.000 | ALBANK OF JORDAN | 11.0 | 0.00 | 2 | 500 | 1852 | 3.04 | 3.05 | 0.01 |
| 1.310 | 0.880 | ALBANK OF JORDAN | 67.7 | 0.00 | 17 | 2750 | 26377 | 1.04 | 1.03 | -0.01 |
| 2.700 | 2.120 | ALBANK OF JORDAN | 5.2 | 6.13 | 4 | 2734 | 2256 | 2.29 | 2.27 | -0.02 |
| 5.600 | 4.350 | ALBANK OF JORDAN | 13.3 | 3.77 | 4 | 1500 | 3399 | 5.03 | 4.99 | -0.04 |
| 3.040 | 2.800 | JOR. KAWATY BANK | 29.6 | 0.00 | 4 | 147 | 396 | 2.72 | 2.70 | -0.02 |
| 4.590 | 4.590 | JOR. KAWATY BANK | 5.9 | 7.07 | 10 | 8150 | 6095 | 1.01 | 0.99 | -0.02 |
| 4.180 | 3.800 | JOR. KAWATY BANK | 18.3 | 0.00 | 13 | 1290 | 7627 | 3.87 | 3.82 | -0.05 |
| 3.930 | 1.610 | UNION BANK JOR. | 8 | 0.00 | 3 | 986 | 1478 | 1.41 | 1.40 | -0.01 |
| 4.950 | 3.000 | JOR. DEV. FUND BANK | 15.2 | 0.00 | 4 | 1224 | 3595 | 3.50 | 3.50 | 0.00 |
| 3.430 | 2.200 | UNION BANK JOR. | 1.4 | 6.56 | 10 | 4900 | 10738 | 2.22 | 2.28 | 0.06 |
| 1.090 | 1.200 | AMMAN BANK JOR. | 8 | 0.00 | 4 | 13000 | 3900 | 2.35 | 2.30 | -0.05 |
| 1.840 | 1.000 | ALBANK AMMAN BANK | 8 | 0.00 | 26 | 14447 | 20000 | 1.36 | 1.39 | 0.03 |
| BANK SECTOR TOTALS | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.910 | 2.150 | JOR. PRISON INDUS. | 6.2 | 9.09 | 3 | 6300 | 13480 | 2.21 | 2.20 | -0.01 |
| INSURANCE SECTOR TOTALS | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.910 | 2.150 | JOR. PRISON INDUS. | 6.2 | 9.09 | 3 | 6300 | 13480 | 2.21 | 2.20 | -0.01 |
| 1.900 | 1.450 | JOR. HOSPITAL PHM. | 11.4 | 7.27 | 45 | 30084 | 49638 | 1.65 | 1.65 | 0.00 |
| 0.050 | 4.680 | ABNA INTL. SECUR. | 16.6 | 2.06 | 1 | 2000 | 2800 | 4.81 | 4.80 | -0.01 |
| 3.820 | 2.050 | SHIPPING LINES | 10.2 | 8.26 | 3 | 900 | 1204 | 2.40 | 2.40 | 0.00 |
| 2.120 | 1.080 | WELSH PORTFOLIO | 9 | 0.00 | 10 | 9008 | 5800 | 1.27 | 1.26 | -0.01 |
| 1.250 | 1.880 | JORDAN SECUR. INV. | 20.7 | 3.42 | 1 | 100 | 465 | 0.92 | 0.93 | 0.01 |
| 1.280 | 0.850 | JORDAN SECUR. INV. | 14.3 | 0.00 | 25 | 22450 | 1244 | 6.85 | 6.83 | -0.02 |
| 10.510 | 8.000 | ALBANK AMMAN BANK | 9.3 | 6.33 | 2 | 1500 | 11800 | 4.00 | 7.30 | 3.30 |
| 3.660 | 3.950 | ABNA INTL. SECUR. | 13.6 | 6.82 | 12 | 3880 | 20126 | 3.46 | 3.44 | -0.02 |
| 1.380 | 0.960 | SARNA EDUCATION | 8 | 0.50 | 8 | 6500 | 7698 | 1.20 | 1.19 | -0.01 |
| 1.200 | 0.930 | WELSH LAND DEV. | 8 | 0.00 | 2 | 750 | 743 | 1.00 | 0.99 | -0.01 |
| SERVICE SECTOR TOTALS | | | | | | | | | | |
| 26.620 | 18.950 | JOR. TOMACCO & CO. | 26.3 | 2.74 | 2 | 216 | 4331 | 30.06 | 30.05 | -0.01 |
| 3.710 | 3.080 | JOR. TOMACCO & CO. | 19.4 | 2.95 | 32 | 6917 | 30348 | 3.28 | 3.29 | 0.01 |
| 8.840 | 4.780 | ABNA PORTFOLIO | 12.5 | 3.85 | 5 | 2900 | 16932 | 5.88 | 5.78 | -0.10 |
| 10.850 | 8.720 | JOR. TOMACCO & CO. | 9.4 | 8.60 | 4 | 122 | 1124 | 9.30 | 9.30 | 0.00 |
| 1.150 | 1.150 | WELSH INDUSTRIES | 8 | 0.00 | 1 | 2700 | 4089 | 1.60 | 1.61 | 0.01 |
| 8.190 | 6.420 | JOR. TOMACCO & CO. | 9.1 | 2.53 | 3 | 30700 | 214770 | 7.20 | 7.00 | -0.20 |
| 8.010 | 3.100 | ABNA PORTFOLIO | 20.3 | 5.45 | 24 | 6133 | 2967 | 3.12 | 3.12 | 0.00 |
| 6.480 | 8.680 | JOR. TOMACCO & CO. | 7.6 | 4.10 | 1 | 50 | 306 | 6.07 | 6.10 | 0.03 |
| 2.320 | 1.400 | WALIA INDUSTRIES | 7 | 0.00 | 6 | 1100 | 1639 | 1.45 | 1.51 | 0.06 |
| 9.900 | 3.130 | ABNA INTL. SECUR. | 8.9 | 8.36 | 6 | 1668 | 5238 | 3.55 | 3.58 | 0.03 |
| 7.100 | 4.850 | LIVESTOCK & POULTRY | 9 | 0.00 | 90 | 43100 | 31503 | 7.78 | 7.78 | 0.00 |
| 1.500 | 1.060 | ABNA PAPER CORP. DEV. | 8.7 | 8.09 | 21 | 7900 | 10040 | 1.26 | 1.28 | 0.02 |
| 2.500 | 1.210 | NATIONAL STEEL IND. | 9 | 0.00 | 1 | 450 | 697 | 1.48 | 1.46 | -0.02 |
| 1.120 | 0.610 | NATIONAL STEEL IND. | 10.8 | 8.70 | 7 | 3450 | 2381 | 0.69 | 0.69 | 0.00 |
| 1.940 | 1.040 | INTERMED. PETRO. CHEM. | 8 | 0.00 | 11 | 5050 | 5820 | 1.16 | 1.16 | 0.00 |
| 1.180 | 0.830 | JOR. HOSPITAL PHM. | 8 | 0.00 | 8 | 2750 | 1578 | 0.80 | 0.80 | 0.00 |
| 3.150 | 2.940 | WELSH PORTFOLIO | 15 | 57.7 | 15 | 500 | 12962 | 4.44 | 4.56 | 0.12 |
| 4.360 | 2.650 | WAL. CEMENT WTR. WTR. | 16.6 | 0.00 | 1 | 500 | 1160 | 2.78 | 2.72 | -0.06 |
| 1.810 | 0.830 | JOR. KAWATY BANK | 8 | 0.00 | 5 | 600 | 448 | 0.89 | 0.89 | 0.00 |
| 2.150 | 1.080 | ABNA PORTFOLIO | 27.3 | 0.00 | 20 | 2750 | 1098 | 1.48 | 1.46 | -0.02 |
| 1.700 | 1.050 | KAWATY INVEST. | 50.3 | 4.29 | 2 | 500 | 693 | 1.36 | 1.40 | 0.04 |
| 2.880 | 1.680 | WELSH LAND DEV. | 8.2 | 11.86 | 1 | 240 | 623 | 1.75 | 1.73 | -0.02 |
| 1.200 | 1.240 | ABNA PORTFOLIO | 15.3 | 0.00 | 75 | 5800 | 57017 | 1.48 | 1.50 | 0.02 |
| 1.700 | 0.950 | JOR. NEW CABLE CO. | 27.4 | 0.00 | 28 | 28750 | 36107 | 1.01 | 1.01 | 0.00 |
| 2.440 | 1.740 | WELSH LAND DEV. | 8 | 0.00 | 2 | 820 | 1272 | 0.06 | 0.06 | 0.00 |
| 1.400 | 1.050 | JOR. TOMACCO & CO. | 18 | 71.50 | 8 | 1500 | 1400 | 1.14 | 1.17 | 0.03 |
| 2.120 | 1.130 | UNION CH. & WEG. | 36.1 | 0.00 | 5 | 2500 | 2944 | 1.15 | 1.14 | -0.01 |
| INDUSTRIAL SECTOR TOTALS | | | | | | | | | | |
| 26.620 | 18.950 | JOR. TOMACCO & CO. | 26.3 | 2.74 | 2 | 216 | 4331 | 30.06 | 30.05 | -0.01 |
| GRAND TOTAL | | | | | | | | | | |
| 151.03 | 151.03 | INDEX | -0.55 | 625 | 763944 | 1197694 | | | | |
| PARALLEL MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR TUESDAY 17/09/1996 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7.90 | 510 | CENTRAL GEN. STORAGE | 22.9 | 0.00 | 1 | 100 | 57 | 57 | 57 | 0.00 |
| 0.800 | 610 | JOR. TRADE EXCH. | 16.8 | 0.00 | 6 | 4850 | 3986 | 64 | 63 | -0.01 |
| 9.940 | 440 | ABNA PORTFOLIO | 25.0 | 0.00 | 13 | 3975 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 0.00 |
| 9.960 | 700 | UNION INV. SOI | 75.5 | 0.00 | 39 | 101000 | 28965 | 80 | 79 | -0.01 |
| 1.140 | 510 | ABNA PORTFOLIO | 25.0 | 0.00 | 20 | 13000 | 7585 | 87 | 86 | -0.01 |
| 1.840 | 1.10 | ABNA PORTFOLIO | 25.0 | 0.00 | 2 | 1000 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 0.00 |
| 1.780 | 2.370 | WELSH CEMENT | 8 | 0.00 | 1 | 843 | 1227 | 1.49 | 1.46 | -0.03 |
| 2.750 | 510 | ABNA INTL. SECUR. | 25.0 | 0.00 | 3 | 1070 | 540 | 540 | 540 | 0.00 |
| 2.100 | 1.20 | ABNA PORTFOLIO | 25.0 | 0.00 | 2 | 1000 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 0.00 |
| 1.100 | 850 | WAL. MTL. GEN. WTR. | 22.8 | 0.00 | 28 | 44850 | 27622 | 61 | 50 | -0.11 |
| 1.050 | 770 | JORDAN STEEL | 13.5 | 0.00 | 13 | 12100 | 28132 | 82 | 80 | -0.02 |
| 840 | 840 | ABNA PORTFOLIO | 9 | 0.00 | 13 | 1050 | 1050 | 55 | 54 | -0.01 |
| 1.880 | 690 | KAWATY INVEST. | 75.1 | 0.00 | 1 | 3500 | 1220 | 26 | 26 | 0.00 |
| 1.600 | 100 | JOR. TOMACCO & CO. | 75.1 | 0.00 | 1 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 0.00 |
| 1.880 | 630 | ABNA PORTFOLIO | 8 | 0.00 | 9 | 6600 | 927 | 84 | 84 | 0.00 |
| 1.880 | 440 | WELSH GEN. | 22.7 | 0.00 | 15 | 10800 | 5690 | 62 | 62 | 0.00 |
| 1.440 | 440 | WELSH GEN. | 22.7 | 0.00 | 8 | 2560 | 82 | 82 | 82 | 0.00 |
| 2.500 | 530 | MID. EAST COMPLEX | 8.8 | 0.00 | 24 | 43350 | 32054 | 73 | 75 | 0.02 |
| GRAND TOTAL | | | | | | | | | | |
| 228 | 312126 | 163420 | | | | | | | | |



Three Atlanta Olympic medallists, gold medallist Allen Johnson of the United States (centre), his compatriot silver medallist Mark Crear (right) and Florian Schwarthoff, bronze, of Germany leap over the last hurdles during the men's 110-metre hurdles in the TOTO International Super Track and Field Meet at the National Stadium in Tokyo. Johnson won the event with the time of 13.40 seconds and Crear placed second with 13.45. Schwarthoff finished third in 13.60 seconds (Reuters photo)

Kipketer misses Coe's mark

TOKYO (AFP) — Wilson Kipketer put aside his missed opportunity of Atlanta to win the 800-metres in 1min 42.17sec at the Tokyo International Athletics meeting on Monday.

Kipketer, 25, missed the Centennial Olympics in Atlanta after rejecting an offer by the International Olympic Committee to run for his native Kenya. He has applied for Danish citizenship, which he is due to obtain in 15 months.

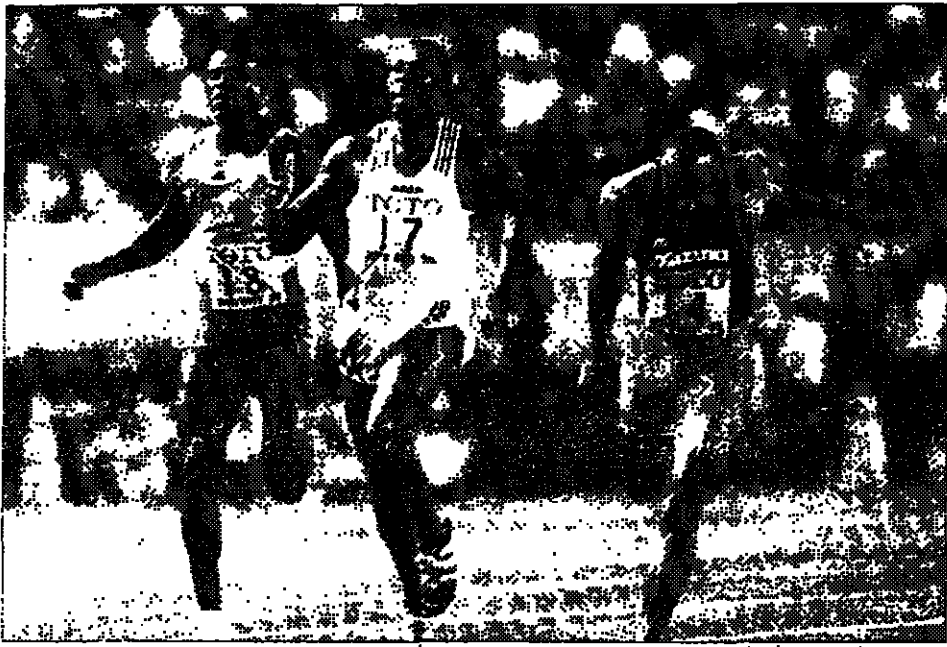
Kipketer's performance Monday was still short of Sebastian Coe's world record of 1:41.77 which the Briton set in 1981 and well behind the 1:41.83 he ran on September 1 in the Rieti Grand Prix for the third best time in history.

In 1984, Joachim Cruz of Brazil ran a 1:41.77 for the second best time ever.

Kipketer, who studied electronics at a technical school in Denmark for six years, stayed at home in Europe and had to look on as four people ran at under 1:43 in Atlanta.

Coe's 15-year-old world record has thus survived yet another Olympic year.

"To break a world record, you need a lot of preparations and it must be done in



Frankie Fredericks (right) of Namibia shakes off Donovan Bailey (centre) of Canada and Carl Lewis of the United States to win the men's 100-metre race in a Tokyo International athletics meet. Fredericks won the race in 10.02 seconds, Bailey placed third in 10.14 seconds, and Lewis placed sixth in 10.37 seconds (Reuters photo)

mid-June or mid-July," Kipketer said after winning his last race of the season.

"I'm not going to say I can do it. But somebody can do it soon because you know there are many people who are running fast now."

"I didn't go for a world record but I tried to run fast," he said after his first race in almost three weeks.

"There was no pressure on me. I felt relaxed."

Japan's Hirohisa Muramatsu finished second in 1:47.13, almost five seconds off Kipketer, and American Johnnu Gray third in 1:47.66.

Asked if he regretted having missed Atlanta, Kipketer said: "That was not my idea to go inside and

kick somebody out (of the Kenyan team)."

"I also have my own principle. I ran for Denmark last year. If I run for Kenya now, it is going to be more complicated for my life," he said.

But Kipketer admitted: "Inside me, I am a Kenyan. There is nothing that has changed mentally."

Wang, Sugiyama advance to 2nd round

TOKYO (AFP) — Taiwan's number one player Wang Shi-ting, whose previous visit to Tokyo ended in the first round in April, eased aside Rika Hiraki to get past the first hurdle at the \$450,000 WTA tournament on Tuesday.

The eighth seed, collector of the three different medals at the student games last year in Japan, needed only 49 minutes to score a comfortable 6-1, 6-3 win over the Japanese.

In the second round, Wang will take on Andrea Glass of Germany, the winner over Annabel Ellwood of Australia 6-4, 6-4.

Sixth-seeded Ai Sugiyama of Japan, enjoying her best season advancing to the fourth round at Wimbledon, also had a comfortable day, beating Adriana Gersi of the Czech Republic 6-1, 6-4.

"I've never heard of her name before. She runs very fast, covers the court very well and has a very good, angled forehand shot. But I was confident I would beat her if I play my tennis," said the 21-year-old Japanese.

Top four seeds — world co-number one Monica Seles of the United States, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain, Kimiko Date of Japan and defending champion Mary Pierce of France — received first round byes.

In other matches, Park Sung-Hee of South Korea, who upset Date in the first round last year here, needed a tough time to beat Tamarine Tanasgarn of Thailand 7-6 (7/5), 6-2.

American Kimberly Po, who also shocked Date in the U.S. Open first round, chalked up a 6-2, 6-1 win over Japanese wild card entrant Miho Saeki.

Kenny Smith joins Pistons

DETROIT (R) — Free agent point guard Kenny Smith, a member of two National Basketball Association championship teams with the Houston Rockets, joined the Detroit Pistons on Tuesday.

A team spokesman said the Pistons have called a news conference for to announce the signing of Smith, who played last season for the Rockets. No terms were disclosed.

The 31-year-old Smith spent the last six seasons with Houston but the Rockets renounced his rights after last season when he averaged 8.5 points and 3.6 assists per game.

Smith previously played for the Sacramento Kings and Atlanta Hawks. He has averaged 13.2 points and 5.7 assists in his nine-year career.

Smith recently said he would like to play

for Detroit because he would have a chance to compete for the starting job. Lindsey Hunter is the incumbent point guard, averaging 8.5 points and 2.4 assists last season. Smith was the starting point guard on Houston's championship teams in 1994 and 1995 but his scoring average has declined in each of the last five seasons.

The signing of Smith would be the fifth of the off-season for the Pistons. They have resigned free agents Otis Thorpe, Don Reid and Michael Curry and signed free agent Rick Mahorn away from the New Jersey Nets.

Detroit, which lost scoring guard Allan Houston to the New York Knicks through free agency and was unable to sign free agent centre Dikembe Mutombo, dealt four draft picks to the Atlanta Hawks for forwards Stacey Augmon and Grant Long.

Steelers stun Bills

PITTSBURGH (R) — Jerome Bettis rushed for 133 yards and two touchdowns and the Pittsburgh Steelers intercepted Jim Kelly four times in a dominant 24-6 victory over the Buffalo Bills Monday.

Bettis had a one-yard scoring run just before the half and sealed Pittsburgh's second straight victory by crashing his way to a 43-yard TD run just before the half.

After Bettis's second touchdown gave the Steelers a 17-3 lead, the Bills tried to operate their two-minute offence. But Kelly threw a pass that Camell Lake picked off and returned 47 yards to make it 24-3 as time expired in the half.

"Obviously a big win for us, a good win," said Steelers coach Bill Cowher. "We did a lot of good things. We still have room to improve, pulled back a little in the second half, but that was due to circumstances in the game."

"We played well tonight. I think we're jelling as a team," defensive back Rod Woodson said. "Our run offence is going along well right now. I think the defence is coming together."

Kelly, who was 15-of-31 for 116 yards, was picked off four times in a game for the third time in a regular-season game. He was also picked off four times against the Washington Redskins in Super Bowl 26.

Bettis became the Steelers' first running back to rush for 100 yards in consecutive games since Barry Foster did it in 1992. Erric Pegram added 84 yards on 17 carries for the Steelers, who amassed 382 yards of offence.

"This is great. I just wanted a chance and every day I thank God I'm here," Bettis said. "I couldn't have asked for a better situation."

The Bills led 3-0 midway through the first quarter on a 31-yard field goal by Steve Christie. Thurman Thomas set up the score with a pair of runs, including a key 13-yard dash on 3rd-and-10 deep in Pittsburgh territory.

Thomas finished with 68 yards on 16 carries for the Bills, who were held to 185 yards of offence.

The Steelers took the ensuing kickoff and moved 75 yards in eight plays. Tomczak completed a screen pass to Kordell Stewart that the versatile back broke for 48 yards to the 13. Bettis then cashed in with a one-yard touchdown plunge for a 7-3 lead.

Mike Tomczak completed 13-of-20 passes for 157 yards in improving to 2-0 as a starter this season.

"The barometer reading right now is that we're playing with good confidence," Tomczak said. "We're playing with the will to win and we're preparing well all week."

Norm Johnson added a 30-yard field goal, 6:25 into the second quarter, to give Pittsburgh a 10-3 advantage. The drive was set up by an interception by Jerry Olsavsky who lateraled the ball to Woodson for 14 more yards.

Bettis capped the Steelers' next possession by breaking free for 43 yards and a score. Pinned at their own four, the Steelers mixed the pass and run to move to midfield. Bettis had a 13-yard run just before his scoring burst made it 17-3 and Lake's interception took it to 24-3.

The only score of the second half was Christie's second field goal, a 45-yarder just under five minutes into the third quarter.

"This was a discouraging loss and we all contributed to it," Bills coach Marv Levy said. "The offence, the defence, the coaching, we're all responsible for the loss."

"This was humiliating. Pittsburgh by every stretch of the imagination was the better team."

Ghana woo Pele in attempt to restore pride

JOHANNESBURG (AFP) — Ghana are hoping star midfielder Abedi Pele can help them salvage some pride against Kenya on Wednesday night in the Simba Four Nations Cup.

The legendary black stars looked a pale shadow of the team once feared throughout Africa when meekly surrendering to Australia in the opening round last Saturday.

Former African footballer of the year Pele was a notable absentee because he had just joined German club Munich 1860 on a free transfer from Torino of Italy.

On Tuesday, Ghanaian officials were frantically trying to secure his release for the rest of the Simba Cup, which finishes on Saturday with a double-header in Pretoria.

Reinforcements for the Kenyan match include midfielder Shamo Quayle from Swedish club Uwer and forward Felix Aboagye, who plays for Egyptian giants Al-Ahly.

Adding to the woes of Ghanaian coach Sam Arday is the injury sustained by captain Abade Kumah against Australia, which could rule him out of the second round match at Johannesburg stadium.

Kenya, unlucky 1-0 losers to South Africa in the Indian Ocean city of Durban, will lack five of the team which gave the African champions a tough time.

Captain Sammy Omollo, fellow defenders Musa Otieno and Vincent Kwarula and midfielders Sammy Sholei and Henry Motege are needed by Breweries for a Caf Cup quarter-final in Sierra Leone this weekend.

Motege powerful shooting will be particularly missed. He robbed of a late equaliser against South Africa by a goal-line clearance.

Yugoslav coach Vojko Gardesevic must hope for a greater contribution from Belgian-based forward Mike Okoth, the only professional in the side but a largely anonymous figure against South Africa.

Wright hat-trick seals Arsenal's day

LONDON (AFP) — A second-half hat-trick by Ian Wright sealed a day of double celebration for Arsenal who stormed to a 4-1 victory over Sheffield Wednesday — just hours after confirming Arsene Wenger as their new manager.

Frenchman Wenger will not take over at the troubled North London Club until September 30 but he will have been impressed by his side's spirited fightback which saw them up overturn Andy Booth's 25th minute opener in emphatic fashion.

Former England captain David Platt sparked the Arsenal recovery with a sweetly-struck equaliser on 57 minutes from the edge of the box.

But it was Highbury hero Wright who stole the show with a hat-trick — his second goal a penalty — which took his league goalscoring tally for Arsenal to the three figure mark.

Wenger said earlier in the night that it was the spirit within Arsenal which attracted him to Highbury — a spirit the players showed in full measure on the pitch.

"It is a big club with a big history of big achievements. They have very strong fans, and I like the spirit that exists in the club and the spirit of the fans. I think there is something special around Highbury," he told sky sports from Japan before the match.

"I've seen all the tapes of Arsenal this season. I think the team has shown great fighting spirit and some good football. I think they have deserved better results than what they have achieved."

"Now they must keep their spirit — because they have the strongest spirit in Europe — and keep their strength."

European coaches against golden goal ruling

COPENHAGEN (AFP) — European national coaches assembled here at their UEFA summit Monday aligned themselves against the golden goal ruling which was such a flap at the Euro 96 in June.

Ironically, only absent Czech coach Dusan Uhrin was for the rule even though his side lost 2-1 to Germany in the Euro 96 final with such a system.

UEFA General Secretary Gerhard Aigner added it was up to teams to try and end matches during 90 minutes to prevent unpopular ways to decide games.

"Whether or not to use the golden goal ruling begs the question of FIFA's competence. There are a lot of ideas in the air, but you should not forget that though coaches hate the golden goal ruling, the players are also opposed to penalties," Aigner said.

Kjus suffering from persistent knee injury

OSLO (R) — Norwegian World Cup champion Lasse Kjus will carry a persistent knee injury into the new season opening in Sölden, Austria, on October 26.

The Norwegian News Agency NTB reported on Tuesday that the Olympic combined event champion's training had been affected by inflammation of the knee.

"I had a lot of injury problems last season so I took a long break in the spring," Kjus said.

"The only thing I can do to get rid of the problem once and for all is to take a really long break from training, but that's just not possible."

Lama out for 2 months

PARIS (AFP) — Paris Saint Germain keeper Bernard Lama, who had a right knee operation on Monday evening, will be out for between one and two months, the club announced.

Lama will therefore miss the friendly match against Turkey at the Parc Des Princes in Paris on October 9.

After saving a penalty by Laurent Charvet against Cannes in the 83rd minute on Sunday evening, Lama fell over and felt pain in his knee.

The save ensured PSG's victory and meant they have not conceded a goal in their first seven league matches.

But it brought Lama's season to an abrupt end and meant changes must be made by both PSG and the French team.

Monaco's Fabien Barthez is set to step into Lama's shoes for the international game, while under-21 international Vincent Fernandez, who replaced Lama against Cannes, is likely to carry on the role.

| TODAY AT | CINEMA TEL: 634144 | CINEMA TEL: 699238 | CINEMA TEL: 677420 | Ammoon Theatre & Cinema TEL: 618274 - 618275 | |
|----------|--|---|---|--|--|
| | PHILADELPHIA | PLAZA | CONCORD | Nabil & Hisham's Theatre TEL: 625155 | |
| | Nadia Jundi ... in ASSASSINATION (ARABIC) Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 | The Arab Cinema Surprise Ahmad Zaki...in Naser 56 (Arabic) Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:45, 11:00 | CONCORD "1" Arnold Schwarzenegger & Vanessa Williams ...in ERASER Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 CONCORD "2" Sylvester Stallone ... in ASSASSINS Shows: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 | Today presents Zawad Weld Awad theatre group in the play entitled Five-Star Government Starring comedians: Mahmoud Saimah & Hussein Tubeishat play starts 8:30 p.m. | |
| | | | | PRESENTS THE SATIRICAL COMEDY Arab Human Rights At 8:30 p.m. For reservation please call 625155-640155 | |

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Edinho sent off a red card flow in Brazil

Edinho sent off a red card flow in Brazil

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Molitor gets 3,000th hit; Mets lose

KANSAS CITY (R) — Paul Molitor became the 21st player in Major-League history to reach 3,000 hits Monday but his Minnesota Twins fell to the Kansas City Royals 6-5.

"It was a very special moment in what has been a long career and one that has been appreciated," said the Twins' 40-year-old designated hitter about reaching the milestone.

Molitor singled in the first inning for hit number 2,999 and then with one out in the fifth, after fouling his first pitch off, ripped a line drive to the gap in right-center off Royals rookie left-hander Jose Rosado, who was just three years old when Molitor made his Major-League debut in 1978.

The ball appeared to be playable by right fielder Jon Nunnally, but he was called off by Rookie center fielder Roderick Myers, who could not make the catch.

"I think the only time I took my eye off the ball was to make sure I touched first," Molitor said. "I did not hit the ball well. It was a fastball up."

"You could see they were coming together. The right fielder pulled up a little. I saw the ball hit the turf. I smelled triple and your instinct takes over."

The sparse crowd of 16,843 at Kauffman Stadium began a standing ovation that lasted nearly three minutes. During the ovation, Molitor saluted the crowd and exchanged hugs with teammates and manager Tom Kelly. Molitor blew a kiss to his wife and daughter as a video tribute played on the scoreboard.

Molitor also acknowledged Robin Yount, his former longtime teammate with the Milwaukee Brewers and a member of the 3,000-hit club who was in attendance. "I cannot express enough gratitude to Robin Yount for coming," he said.

"I reminded myself every day that this is something you enjoy and not fight," said Molitor, a hometown Minnesota favorite and native of St. Paul. "You do feel a sense of relief once you reach that level."

The historic hit came three years to the day after Dave Winfield got his 3,000th, also with the Twins. It marked the first time a player reached the plateau with a triple.

Molitor finished the night 3-for-5 with an RBI. He has 3,001 career hits and passed Roberto Clemente and Cap Anson for 19th place on the all-time list. He is six hits short of tying former Tiger Al Kaline for 18th place.

Chuck Knoblauch got his 1,000th hit and Pat Meares homered for Minnesota, but Keith Lockhart's two-run homer keyed a five-run sixth inning that lifted the Royals past Minnesota.

In Toronto, Tim Lincecum hit a pair of three-run homers on his 37th birthday and Jimmy Key pitched eight scoreless innings as the New York Yankees routed the Blue Jays 10-0.



The ball bounces off Los Angeles Dodgers' runner Todd Hollandsworth (left) as Colorado Rockies' shortstop Walt Weiss covers on the play during the third inning in Denver. Hollandsworth advanced to third on the throwing error by Rockies' right fielder (background) Dante Bichette. Los Angeles defeated Colorado 6-4 (Reuters photo)

The American League East-leading Yankees went 6-1 on their seven-game road trip and moved three games ahead of the Orioles, who were idle Monday when rain in Baltimore washed out their scheduled game with the Milwaukee Brewers.

New York hosts Baltimore in a three-game series starting and has a magic number of seven for clinching its second straight post-season appearance.

Key (12-10) allowed two hits and struck out four against his former club. He has won three straight decisions and retired the first 17 batters of the game before Tomas Perez singled past second baseman Mariano Duncan into right field with two out in the sixth.

"I just misplayed that ball," said Duncan.

Toronto starter Paul Quantrill (5-14) was tagged for seven runs and six hits in five innings. Raines snapped an 0-for-12 slump with three-run shots in the third and fifth innings. Ruben Rivera also homered for New York. Third baseman Wade Boggs, sidelined for more than a week with back problems, walked three times and scored twice.

In Chicago, Jack McDowell tossed a nine-hitter against his former club and Kevin Seitzer added a clutch two-run single in the sixth as the Cleveland Indians beat the White Sox 4-3.

The Indians can clinch their second straight American League central title with a victory Tuesday over the fading White Sox, who fell three games behind the Orioles in the wild-card race.

McDowell (12-9) struck out five without a walk in his fifth complete game of the season. Chicago starter Wilson Alvarez (15-9), winless in his last three starts, had his streak of 20 scoreless innings against the Indians snapped.

Frank Thomas, who hit three homers Sunday, had three hits including his 36th homer. Harold Baines also homered for Chicago.

In Seattle, Jamie Moyer scattered four hits over eight innings and Dave Hollins

singled home two runs in a three-run fifth inning as the Mariners shut out the Texas Rangers 6-0.

Moyer (12-3) walked two and struck out five. Bobby Ayala pitched a perfect ninth. Seattle has won five straight and cut the Rangers' lead to five games in the AL West with three games left between the teams. Seattle has won seven of the 10 meetings.

Braves over Mets

Braves pitcher Denny Neagle tossed a seven-hitter for his first win with his new team and added a key two-run single to lead Atlanta to a 5-2 win over the New York Mets Monday.

Neagle (15-8), acquired from Pittsburgh on August 28, had gone 0-2 with a 6.27 era in his first three starts with the Braves. He walked three and struck out three for his second complete game of the season and first victory since August 27.

"I'd be lying to say I wasn't pressing," Neagle said. "I said it wasn't a fluke that I won 14 games with the pirates. I established my fastball the last few times and I was nit-picking with my changeup."

"We weren't disappointed in his performance before because he was pitching good," Atlanta pitching coach Leo Mazzone said. "I don't care what his record is, he's a heck of a pitcher."

Atlanta, seeking its fifth division title in six years, has won consecutive games following a season-high six-game losing streak and reduced to eight its magic number for clinching the National League East.

New York center fielder Lance Johnson went 2-for-4 to extend his hitting streak to 15 games. He also got his 20th triple of the season, making him the first national leaguer to reach 20 triples in a season since Willie Mays in 1957.

Johnson set a Mets' record with his 109th run of the season, surpassing Howard Johnson and Darryl Strawberry.

The Braves scored four runs in the sixth — the last two on Neagle's single to center — to extend their lead to 5-0 and chase starter Pete Harnisch (8-11).

"The hitting is fun, but the important thing is that I gave

myself more of a cushion," Neagle said.

Harnisch, who left the game with a contusion of his right hand after Mark Lemke's RBI single hit him on the mound during the Braves' sixth-inning rally, allowed five runs and six hits in 5 2/3 innings to fall to 0-4 in his last seven starts.

In Denver, Ismael Valdes allowed two runs over seven innings to continue his mastery over Colorado and Todd Hollandsworth belted a two-run homer to give the Los Angeles Dodgers their seventh win in eight games, 6-4 over the Rockies.

Valdes (14-7) won his third straight decision, giving up five hits with one walk and six strikeouts. He improved to 3-0 against Colorado this season and 4-0 in his career.

Antonio Osuna pitched a scoreless eighth and Todd Worrell surrendered a two-run homer to pinch-hitter John Vander Wal in the ninth. It was Vander Wal's third pinch-hit homer of the season and ninth of his career.

Los Angeles remained one-half game ahead of San Diego for the top spot in the N.L. West.

The Rockies had their eight-game winning streak snapped. Colorado won eight in a row, a franchise record, on two separate occasions this season.

In San Francisco, Steve Finley led off the 11th inning with a home run off rod back as the San Diego Padres edged the Giants 2-1 to stay right behind the Dodgers in the battle for the N.L. West lead.

San Diego has seven games remaining with Los Angeles.

Finley hit an 0-1 pitch well over the right-field fence for his 25th homer as the Padres won for the seventh time in eight games.

Beck (0-9), who had just 15 career losses before this season, allowed a run and two hits with one walk and three strikeouts over two innings.

Arabian Horse Festival makes stunning debut

By Mun'em Fakhoury and Aileen Bannayan
Special to the Jordan Times

Palestine, the United Arab Emirates, East Championships on Friday looking at type, head and

AMMAN — The 7th Arabian Horse Festival got off to a flying start Tuesday as over 10 Jordanian horse breeders competed in the three races in the opening of the four-day event.

Sixteen pure-bred Arabian horses competed in the races attended by Their Royal Highnesses Princesses Alia and Zein in addition to a large number of enthusiasts.

Amar owned by Mustaf Al Qaisi won first place in the opening 1200-metre race followed by Krznica owned by Ra'ed Manasrah and Permilla owned by Walid Assaf in third place.

Galawi from the Royal Stables was first in the second 1200-metre race followed by Cargo owned by Ja'far Stud in second place and Ghadeer owned by Walid Assaf was third.

In the 2,000-metre race Demagogue of the Royal Stables was first, followed by Shaded of Ja'far Stud and Nuwar owned by Walid Assaf.

The Horse Festival gets into high gear Wednesday with the start of the horse shows starting at 10:00 a.m. The official opening ceremony of the festival will be held at the Royal Stables at 4:00 p.m.

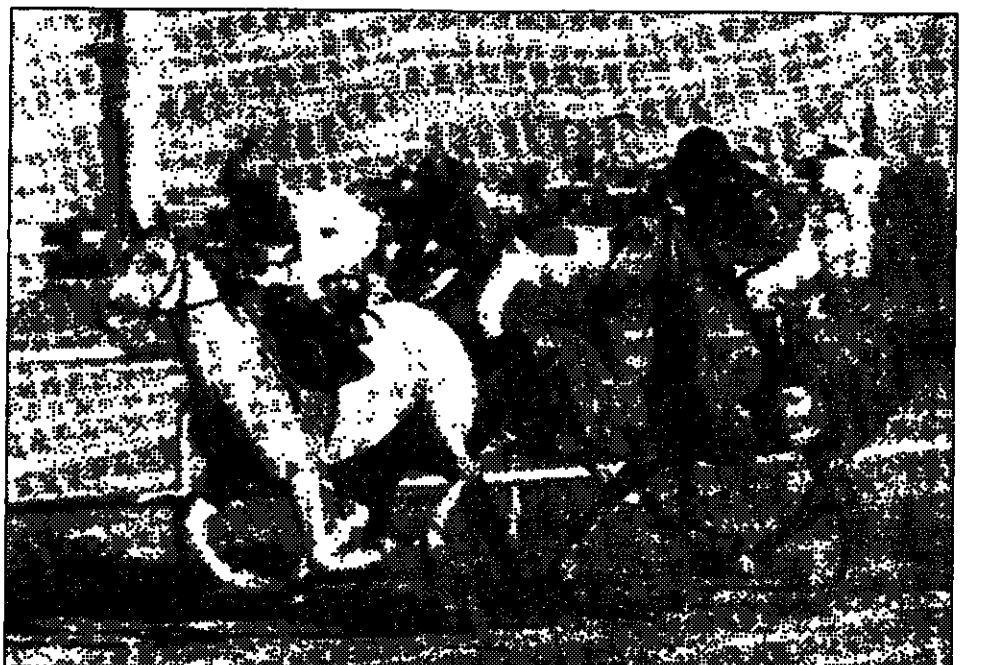
Organisers at the Royal Jordanian Equestrian Federation (RJEF), headed by Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Bint Al Hussein, are very happy with the number of participants and the fact that the annual event, celebrating its seventh year, this year enjoys sponsorship by Oracle, a leader in the world's information management software technology.

Twenty seven Jordanian horse breeders are taking part in the event representing over 70 per cent of 140 entries from Kuwait, Qatar, Emirates, Saudi Arabia, and the U.S. The events will enable participating horses to qualify for international championships.

The Horse Festival will conclude with the Middle



Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Bint Al Hussein receives the first place trophy in the 1,200-metre race from Sheikh Nawwaf Ben Naser, head of the Qatari delegation (Photo by Abdullah Ayyoub)



Pure-bred Arabian horses run for first place on the opening day of the 7th Arabian Horse Festival (Photo by Abdullah Ayyoub)

Emirates, Saudi Arabia, and the U.S. The events will enable participating horses to qualify for international championships.

The Horse Festival will conclude with the Middle

day. A judges course will also be held Saturday and Sunday.

Judges for the horse show represent Holland, Australia, Poland, Sweden, and Morocco. They will be

neck, body and topline, legs and movement.

The endurance race, open only to local participants, will this year be held Oct. 18.

Tomba dodges jail

pany of a 23-year-old woman with whom he was having an affair.

Tomba said later: "I only

The popular skier, who has a playboy image on the World Cup circuit, was fined after negotiating a reduction in the judge's original sentence of 20

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Tomba said later: "I only

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ICRC in renewed bid to ensure respect for human dignity — Sommaruga

Red Cross president pays tribute to humanitarian work of Crown Prince

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is involved in renewed efforts to deeply entrench the concept of respect for human dignity in any situation in the behaviour of governments and parties. ICRC President Cornelio Sommaruga said Tuesday.

The issue has become particularly relevant in recent times since the civilian population rather than the combatants themselves bears the brunt of armed conflicts and this is an issue of high concern for the ICRC, he said.

Dr. Sommaruga, addressing a press conference at the end of a short visit to Jordan, paid tribute to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan's endeavours in this context, noting that one of the issues he discussed with the Regent was the inclusion of respect for human dignity in Jordanian curricula.

"It is not an issue limited to police and military," said Dr. Sommaruga. "We have to introduce the idea to the education system, particularly universities, which produce political leaders."

One of the basic founding principles of ICRC is respect for human dignity in any situation, but the concept is not fully upheld and as such the all-Swiss humanitarian organisation feels the urgent need to strengthen it throughout the world, said Dr. Sommaruga.

The ICRC president recalled that the Crown Prince had accomplished significant progress in this respect as head of the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues (ICHI) under a mandate from the United Nations in the mid-80s.

"Jordan, particularly Crown Prince Hassan, has

done a lot to support Red Cross activities not only in Jordan and the region but also in the international scene," Dr. Sommaruga said.

Dr. Sommaruga also particularly referred to the help that Jordan had been extending to ICRC to carry out its work in Iraq.

"Almost all the work we have done in Iraq has been through Jordan, and we are extremely grateful to the Kingdom for the help it has been extending to us," he said.

Dr. Sommaruga, who was in Jordan to attend the 26th conference of Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross Societies, said the meeting had underlined the "excellent level" of cooperation between the ICRC and the various national Red Crescent and Red Cross societies. "What was also highly positive was the importance given by all the societies to international humanitarian law and its dissemination," he said.

While most countries have ratified the Geneva Conventions, which form the ICRC's raison d'être, many governments have not really absorbed international humanitarian law into their national legislation, he said.

Dr. Sommaruga cited an example: International humanitarian law stipulates that no one, regardless of nationality or any other consideration, should get away with committing crimes against humanity. There have been cases when persons suspected of having committed such crimes pass through other countries with impunity while the respective governments knew that those persons were wanted in connection with such crimes. In most cases, the justification was that the concerned government did not have a relevant law to detain them.

If the respective governments had adopted international humanitarian law as part of their national legislation, then they would have been in a strong position to adopt the necessary action, Dr. Sommaruga pointed out.

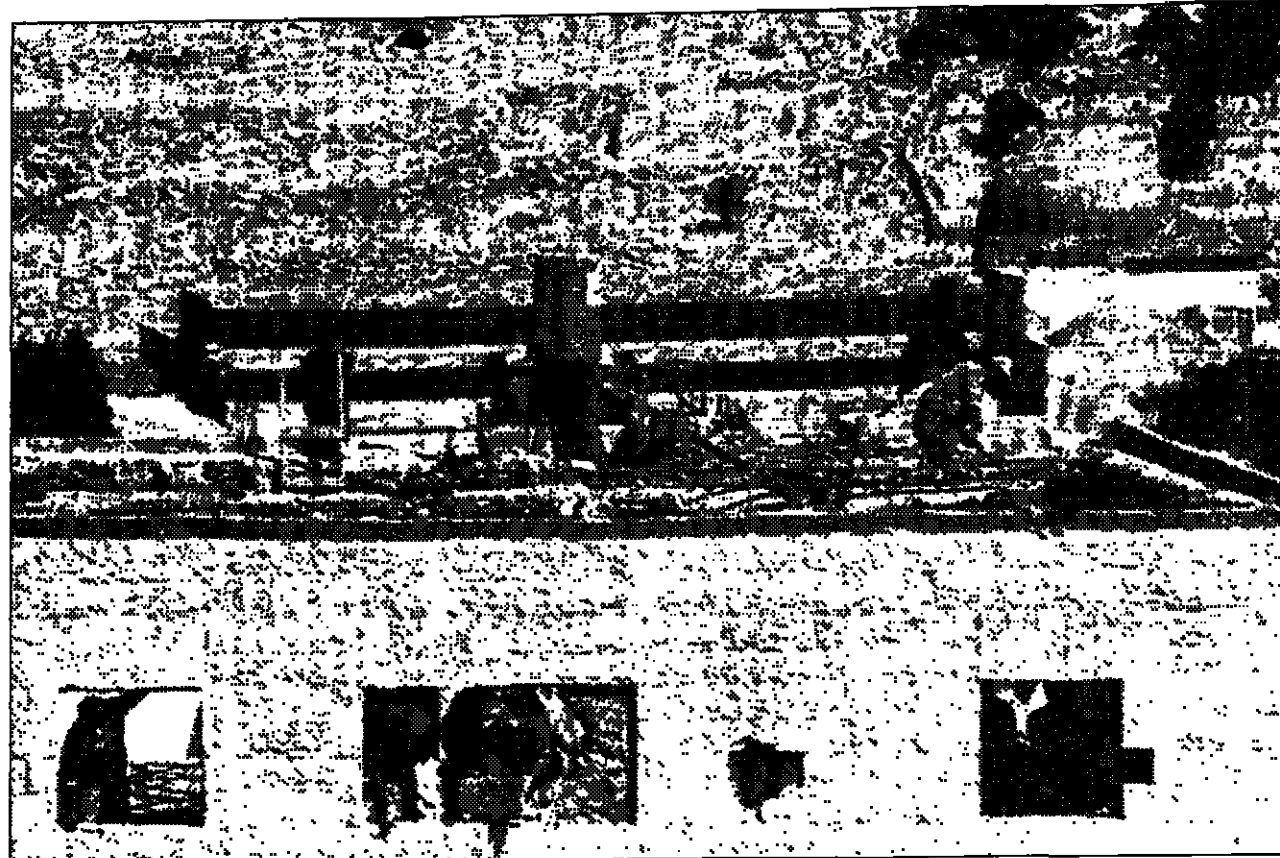
In an address to the conference of Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross societies on Monday, Dr. Sommaruga emphasised the necessity for governments not only to adopting international humanitarian law but also enforcing it.

He renewed a proposal that "we subscribe to a new contract of humanity whereby, by states, all the components of our movement and the entire international community undertake to give their unreserved support to efforts aimed at applying international humanitarian law."

Dr. Sommaruga also focused on the need to raise awareness and application of call for respect for human dignity in situations of conflict.

"We are all aware that today's conflicts are evolving in such a way that neither humanitarian law nor the rights of the victims are given pride or place," he said. "The civilian population falls prey to what has become to be called 'cleansing': whether ethnic, religious or clan-motivated; irregular 'combats' springing up spontaneously; warlords divide up territories among themselves and undermine the centres of decision-making and responsibility."

"If we do not succeed in making the authorities, the armed forces and the public at large more familiar with humanitarian law and the basic principles of humanity relating to civilians and to combatants who have laid down their weapons, future prospects for war victims will be dismal indeed."



Israeli workers use jackhammers on Tuesday to tear down the second storey of a Palestinian home in the Old City of Jerusalem which the Israeli occupation authorities said had been built illegally (Reuters photo)

Israel destroys part of Palestinian home

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — Scuffles broke out between Israeli soldiers and Palestinians who were protesting the partial demolition of a Palestinian home in Jerusalem's Old City on Tuesday.

Around 60 residents of the area marched in protest on the house as the Israeli army demolished the top floor of the building, located in the Armenian quarter of the city near Jaffa Gate.

When the soldiers and police, who were out in force during the demolition to prevent incidents, broke up the march, fistfights erupted, witnesses said.

One Palestinian was taken to hospital after being punched and thrown to the cobblestone ground, they said.

Police sources said the demolition had been ordered by Israeli authorities because the second floor of the building had been built without a permit.

"They came at five in the morning and threw me, my wife and children out. There was no previous warning at all. This is barbaric," the house's owner Aiman Yaghmur told AFP.

"We were just doing renovations on the second floor, we weren't building on it. Olmert wants us to sleep in the street," he said, referring to Ehud

Olmert, the right-wing Likud Party mayor of Jerusalem.

Israeli authorities, cited by state radio, said they had repeatedly warned Mr. Yaghmur and given him the opportunity to demolish the top floor himself so he could keep the building materials.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met with Mr. Olmert on Monday, "urging him to act with restraint" in demolitions in East Jerusalem "due to sensitivities among Palestinians and the international community," the Israeli daily Jerusalem Post said.

On Monday, a group of Israeli and Palestinian lawyers said they would take legal action against the Israeli government for demolishing "illegally built" Palestinian housing.

"The Israeli army has destroyed in the past months 10 Palestinian homes in the West Bank," Zehava Galon, head of the Israeli civil rights movement told state radio.

"We plan on taking the Israeli government to court for its deliberate discrimination against the Arab residents of the West Bank and East Jerusalem," Ms. Galon said.

"The previous (Labour Party) administration only demolished homes

for security reasons, but the current officials do it merely because the houses have been built without permits," she said.

"Over 25 years of occupation, Israeli policy has deliberately aimed to limit the granting of building permits to Palestinians in the territories," she added.

Palestinian legislators accused Israel of trying to sabotage Israeli-Palestinian peace talks by stepping up house demolitions.

"This proves the intentions of the Israeli government to scuttle the peace process by provoking the Palestinian leadership," said Ziad Abu Ziad, a member of the Palestinian legislative council from Jerusalem.

Palestinians say they are systematically denied building permits as part of an Israeli policy to limit the number of Palestinians living in the city. Palestinians are now 28 per cent of the population.

The Israeli human rights group B'tselem has said there is a clear policy of discrimination by giving orders to demolish houses of Palestinians" while encouraging Jewish construction.

Serbs will have to work with former enemies — diplomats

BANJA LUKA (R) — Despite fiery separatist rhetoric during the election campaign, Bosnian Serb hardliners accept they will have to cooperate with their wartime foes and take part in Bosnia's new inter-communal government, Western diplomats said on Tuesday.

The separatist SDS party which led the Bosnian Serb war effort was poised to overwhelm "moderates" in the battle for the Serb seat on the new collective Bosnian presidency and for control of a Bosnian Serb assembly.

A partial count of the returns in Saturday's vote showed that SDS candidate Momcilo Krajisnik was certain to join the three-man Bosnian presidency.

All three sides used tough talk on the stump but diplomats believe that was mostly posturing. Mr. Krajisnik is the most powerful politician in the Bosnian Serb Republic and the fact that he was nominated was a sure sign that the SDS was taking the presidency seriously, diplomats said.

"Krajisnik would have not stood for something that has no influence," one added.

Although the election results appeared to be confirming the ascendancy of

hardliners on all sides, some analysts believe elections mean that Bosnia has taken a stride to peace that will be irreversible under strict scrutiny by the international community. The presidency members are expected to be invited to the United Nations next month where "each will have to commit himself to Bosnia in the eyes of the entire world," the diplomatic source said.

"The Bosnian Serbs have so far been living in a limbo. Now they have a state and their leaders will have to play by international rules or else."

The first to swallow the bitter pill of international pressure in that respect was Bosnian Serb President Biljana Plavsic, who was forced by mediators at the weekend to retract her separatist statements.

"In 1990 (Bosnian Serb leader Radovan) Karadzic promised his Muslim and Croat rivals in the parliament the gates of hell would soon open. We have now shut them formally and we will have no more such rhetoric," the diplomat said.

Senior Bosnian Serb sources close to the government acknowledge that Serbs have no option but to cooperate.

Arafat to meet Israeli defence minister today

GAZA CITY (AFP) — Palestinian President Yasser Arafat and Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai will most likely meet for the first time on Wednesday to discuss Hebron and other issues, a senior Arafat aide said.

"It is expected that the meeting will take place tomorrow evening," Nabil Abu Rdaina, a close advisor to Mr. Arafat, said.

Mr. Arafat will also meet with U.S. Middle East envoy Dennis Ross in Gaza on Wednesday before the Mordechai meeting "to explore the latest developments in the Palestinian-Israeli peace process," Mr. Abu Rdaina said.

Mr. Ross arrived in Cairo on Tuesday at the start of a tour which will also take him to Israel and possibly Syria aiming to revive the flagging Middle East peace process.

Palestinian sources said the long-awaited meeting between Mr. Arafat and Mr. Mordechai would take place at the Erez border crossing between Gaza and Israel.

Mr. Arafat, who returned on Tuesday from a trip to Egypt, Zimbabwe and Japan, confirmed to journalists preparations for meeting Mr.

Mordechai were underway, but would not specify when it would take place.

At the top of the meeting's agenda would be "to implement what has been agreed upon, especially the redeployment from Hebron, the isolation of Jerusalem and Israel's redeployment from other areas of the West Bank," Mr. Arafat said.

The Arafat-Mordechai meeting has been tossed around for weeks but has apparently been held up by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's indecision on Hebron, the last major West Bank town under Israeli occupation. Under the terms of the 1995 Oslo accords extending Palestinian autonomy in the West Bank, Israel was due to turn 80 per cent of Hebron over to Mr. Arafat's Palestinian Authority (PNA) in March, leaving a small army force behind to protect 450 Jewish settlers living in the heart of the city of 120,000.

Mr. Netanyahu has said he wants to modify the pullout plan to increase security for the Jewish settlers and religious sites in Hebron. Mr. Arafat has ruled out any renegotiation of the Oslo terms for the pullback.

Efforts continue to pinpoint cause of death of 2 children

By Rana Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The criminal lab at the Public Security Department is still conducting laboratory tests on samples taken from two children found dead in their apartment in Shmeisat last week, official sources said Tuesday.

The source denied earlier reports that the children had inhaled a chemical, stressing that the children had consumed a poisonous material.

According to the sources, the high number of substances which must undergo analysis is delaying the final results of tests.

"We are taking our time because we prefer accuracy over speed," one source explained.

Attorney General Mohammad Najdawi is expected to be

in charge of the case when the final results are announced.

The mother of the two found her daughter Hanin Mazen Masri, nine, collapsed behind the front door to their apartment at Abu Oneizah Housing. Hani, six, was found in his bedroom, also dead. The children were declared dead on arrival in hospital.

The children were left alone after their mother went to give her husband a ride to work at 6:45 a.m.

Food poisoning had been ruled out as a cause of death. The official sources also denied earlier reports that blood samples were sent abroad for tests.

A close relative of the family told the Jordan Times that the authorities informed them that the results were expected to be announced today (Wednesday).

3 held for JD7 million embezzlement

By Rana Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Three people have been ordered detained by the Amman prosecutor general after being charged with embezzling about JD 7 million from a bank in Jordan, official sources said Tuesday.

One source told the Jordan Times that the three, two of them employees of the bank in Amman, were involved in embezzling huge amounts of money through commission.

Charges pressed against the three by attorney general Mohammad Harahsheh include embezzlement, forgery and the use of forged documents.

The sources also said that the three men were also involved in paying commissions to individuals and traders outside the country.

According to lawyer Badi Qobein, who will defend the three, his clients were ordered detained Tuesday by the authorities because he was not present when they were called to Mr. Harahsheh's office.

"Since I was unable to be present when they were ordered held, the prosecutor general decided to detain them for tonight to ensure their presence in court today (Wednesday)," Mr. Qobein told the Jordan Times.

Mr. Qobein added that the case was filed against his clients by a former employee who had conflicts with one of the three defendants because he was forced to resign.

Mohammad Harahsheh, the prosecutor general who is handling the case, declined comment on the case.

Pro-Syrians' sweep of Bekaa polls confirmed

BEIRUT (R) — Syrian-backed candidates won a resounding victory in the last round of Lebanon's five-stage parliamentary elections, winning all but two of the 23 Bekaa Valley seats, official results on Tuesday showed.

Official results of Sunday's Bekaa vote showed a Syrian-backed list that included several ministers and deputies and candidates of Hizbollah and the secular Amal. Lebanon's two main Shi'ite Muslim movements, winning 21 seats.

The results, announced by Interior Minister Michel Al Murr, determined the final form of the 128-seat half-Christian half-Muslim parliament where pro-Syrian candidates won an overwhelming majority in five voting rounds begun on Aug. 18.

Total voter turnout in all five rounds was put at 44 per cent of

some 2.57 million eligible voters in Lebanon, compared with turnout of 30 per cent in 1992 polls. The main loser on the Syrian-backed ticket in the Bekaa was Education Minister Robert Ghanem who lost by a small margin to Henri Shdeed, a Christian independent running on a small list. Mr. Ghanem, one of six ministers on the list, was the only one to lose among 21 members of the 29-man cabinet who ran in the polls.

The highest number of votes, 105,192, was received by the candidate of the Syrian-backed Amal movement, Houssein Minister Mahmoud Abu Hamdan. An Amal ally also won — meaning the group now has six members and three allies in parliament, including its chief Nabih Berri, speaker of the outgoing assembly.



Clint Eastwood takes stand in civil trial

BURBANK, California (R) — Clint Eastwood said Monday he signed a secret deal with Warner Bros. to protect the studio from any potential losses from films directed by his ex-lover, Sondra Locke, who is suing him. Ms. Locke, who met Eastwood on the set of the 1975 movie The Outlaw Josey Wales, alleges in her suit that Eastwood essentially destroyed her directorial career in Hollywood. Eastwood, speaking in court, one-word sentences, testified at a civil trial that Locke had no knowledge of the deal, which she alleges helped sabotage her career as a director and actress.

Eastwood, known for playing Hollywood tough men of few words, answered just "yes," "no" or "that's right" to about a dozen questions from Locke's lawyer, who rested her case after five minutes. Eastwood's lawyer said he would cross-examine the star later. The case stems from Locke's original 1989 palimony lawsuit against the Oscar-winning director and actor Eastwood in which she claimed assets the couple accumulated during their relationship. Locke later dropped the palimony suit when Eastwood agreed to secure the director's contract worth \$1.5 million at Warner Bros. for her. But Locke now claims that contract was "a sham" and is seeking damages of over \$2.5 million.

Kapil Dev kidnap plot foiled, claim police

NEW DELHI (AFP) — A plot to kidnap Indian cricketing legend Kapil Dev has been foiled by police, newspapers reported Tuesday. Punjab police announced they had arrested an armed Kashmiri militant near Chandigarh who, they claimed, was planning to trade Kapil Dev for an imprisoned rebel chief. State police chief Sube Singh, quoted by the Times of India daily, said Bilal Ahmad was part of a Kashmiri Muslim militant group called the Al Umar Mujahideen and had been armed with a 30 millimetre pistol and cartridges. Police officials said Bilal, who wanted to force the authorities to release imprisoned rebel chief Mushtaq Latram from a Delhi prison, had admitted he had been trained to handle weapons and explosives in Pakistan. The group had previously kidnapped a politician from the eastern state of Bihar and held him for 11 months before troops freed him. Muslim militants in Kashmir have been waging an armed struggle to secede from India since 1989. More than 15,000 people have died during the campaign.

Finnish party ad upsets family of John Wayne

HELSINKI (AFP) — The family of American screen legend John Wayne is considering legal action against Finland's largest opposition party for using "the Duke" in its municipal election campaign without permission. Finnish daily Helsingin Sanomat said Tuesday. According to the paper, Wayne's eldest son, Michael, is looking into the possibility of seeking damages from the Centre Party. The party has used four scenes from John Wayne's 1974 film Angel And The Bad Man. The scenes, which have been dubbed into Finnish, feature Wayne cutting down the two largest parties, the Social Democrats and the Conservatives, and urging voters to vote for the Centre Party on Oct. 20. Michael Wayne told Helsingin Sanomat that none of Wayne's seven children had given the party permission to use their father in the campaign. The copyright to the movie was owned by Republic Pictures, which let it lapse.

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